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How barter beats the recession

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Down on the farm

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THE TIMES

No. 64,591 SATURDAY MARCH 13 1993 50p

Bombay car bombs kill 200

■ The attacks on Bombay, coming soon after the New York bombing, have prompted fears that Muslim extremists may have embarked on an extended campaign of international terrorism

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF



Bombay burning: a taxi blazes after being set alight by crowds venting their anger over yesterday's bombings

AT LEAST 200 people were killed and more than 1,100 injured yesterday when a chain of car bombs exploded across Bombay.

Thirteen explosions set fire to the stock exchange, gutted the ground floor of the Air India building, blew apart a bus and damaged five-star hotels. The Victoria railway terminus, shopping centres, a packed cinema, the university, hospitals and bus station were also hit.

The prime minister, P.V. Narasimha Rao, said he was shocked and grieved beyond words and denounced the "mischievous, inhuman and criminal attacks". He declared a nationwide security emergency and ordered the army on alert as explosives experts, bomb disposal teams, intelligence agency officials and commandos were rushed to the city.

S.B. Chavan, the home minister, blamed the attacks on an "international conspiracy", often a code phrase for Pakistan, adding that the explosives used were not readily available in India. The government suspects Islamic extremists — perhaps acting in reprisal for the rioting that killed nearly 600 Muslims in the city two months ago — and the operation certainly seems to have been too professionally organised for any known Indian group to have carried it out alone.

The bombers chose their targets both for maximum economic impact and the greatest casualties, starting with the ground floor of the 28-storey stock exchange at 1.25 pm. The other blasts followed in quick succession over the next 70 minutes. Police reported that 184 bodies had been counted in city hospitals and dozens more were still lying in streets or under the rubble of collapsed buildings. They said the death toll was certain to rise substantially. The hospitals were unable to cope — some patients were packed in two or three to a bed — and many of the wounded were sent to poorly equipped nursing homes. Doctors' efforts were hampered as hundreds of people besieged the wards in search of relatives.

The bombs exploded from the southern financial district to the far northern suburbs. Several dozen people were killed by the stock exchange blast, which came five minutes before the end of trading. One survivor reported seeing two people blown through a second-floor window to their deaths on the concrete below. Many of those killed were hawkers who operated outside the building, and burnt bodies lay on the bloodied pavement among the broken glass, shoes, sandals and share applications.

About 3,000 people were on the second-floor trading floor when the bomb went off, setting fire to the first three storeys, and some of the victims were crushed in the stampede to escape. One trader said: "We were all lifted above the ground by about two feet. People fell on each other and ran out." M.R. Mayya, executive director of the exchange, said it would be at least a week before normal trade could resume.

At the Air India headquarters at Nariman Point, more than 20 people were killed when an explosion brought down the walls and ceiling of the booking office. The blast wrecked also the offices of the Bank of Oman, Singapore Airlines and the Bank of America and tossed roadside stalls into the air.

The most casualties were reported in the Worli seafront residential district, where 65 people were killed by the bombing of a double-decker bus. Another device exploded near a waiting bus in the fashionable Century Bazaar shopping district in the city centre, leaving a 10 ft by 8 ft crater in the street.

Several hotels were attacked, including the five-star Sea Rock in the northern suburbes, where teams had gathered for an international hockey championship. Only three people were cut by flying glass. The England squad was last night awaiting guidance from the British consulate on whether to go ahead with the contest. The tournament has already been postponed twice because of rioting in the city in December and January.

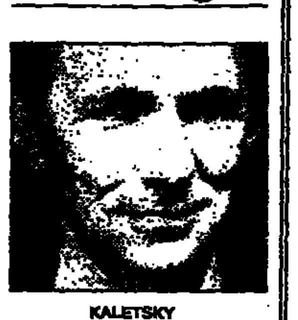
That rioting was instigated by a fanatical Hindu organisation called Shiv Sena, which practially runs sections of Bombay and extorts huge amounts from local businesses with impunity. It is possible that yesterday's attacks were in reprisal, and one device set off a fire at a petrol pump opposite the Shiv Sena headquarters.

The city's Muslims are still bitter over the abuse they took from Hindus in January while police did nothing, and many Islamic countries expressed outrage over the partiality of the police.

If, as the government suspects, Islamic extremists were responsible for yesterday's bombings, Muslims and Hindus could be pitched into fresh confrontation. Shortly after the blasts, scattered Hindu-Muslim violence erupted in several parts of the city with witnesses reporting mobs burning cars, looting shops and throwing stones.

NEXT WEEK IN THE TIMES

Best for the Budget



KALETSKY

■ Tuesday's Budget will have unrivalled coverage in *The Times*. Wednesday's eight-page supplement features the best writers in British journalism, including Anatole Kaletsky, Anthony Harris, Janet Bush, Peter Riddell and Simon Jenkins

■ *The Times* will have the Budget details for everyone from big corporations to families

Best for Sport

■ On Tuesday, Rob Hughes writes from the world youth football championships on the young players who are likely to be the next generation of stars

Best for Arts

■ The Whitney Biennial is touted as America's top arts festival. On Monday Jamie James begs to differ

Plus . . .

■ Sir James Goldsmith is back, giving Sunday's Channel 4 lecture on *The State of Britain*. On Monday *The Times* will have a full report on Goldsmith's views

MPs join clamour for Birt to quit

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN MEDIA CORRESPONDENT AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN Birt, the BBC director-general, was at the centre of a growing storm last night as more than 60 MPs called for his resignation and most of the corporation's governors were conspicuously silent when asked to express their continuing support.

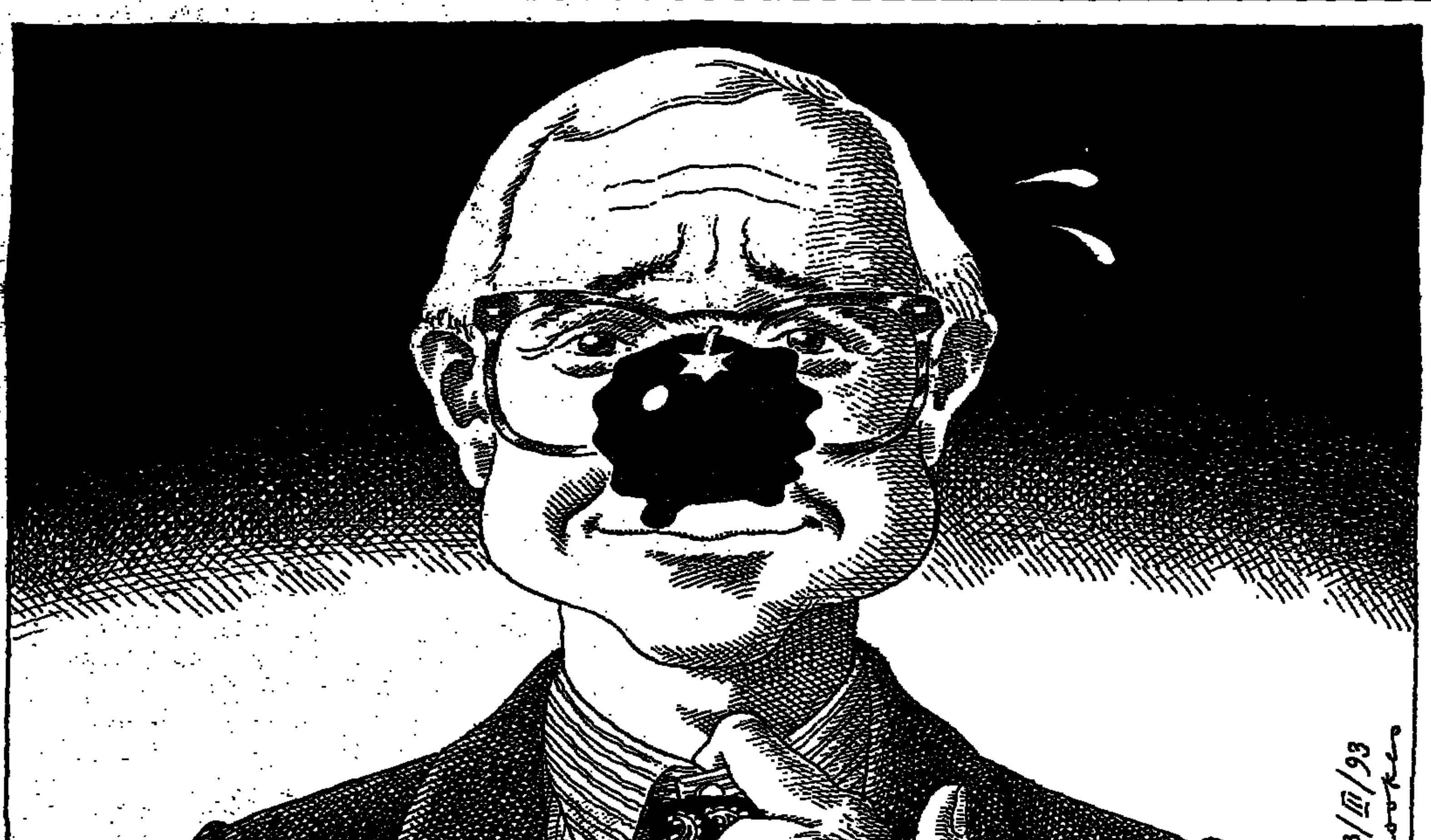
Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC's chairman, appealed privately to the corporation's 12 governors to pledge their public support for Mr Birt. *The Times* yesterday could not find one available to do so.

Sixty-four Labour MPs have signed a Commons motion accusing Mr Birt of "complete public disregard" in making profound changes to the structure of the corporation. Senior Tories privately conceded that he had been "silly" to arrange a tax avoidance deal for himself.

Last night, *The Times* learnt that Mr Birt is to be questioned by MPs about his six years of working for the BBC on a freelance basis and about payments made to his wife by his private company. The Commons select committee on national heritage is to mount an inquiry into the running of the BBC after Easter. Members of the committee said yesterday that they expected Mr Birt to be one of the first witnesses.

The enquiry will include staff contracts and pay because the corporation is increasingly relying on outside programme makers under Mr Birt's "producer choice" policy.

The Outsider, page 2
Weekend Money, page 30



Sex assault beyond law

BY IAN MURRAY

A HIGH Court judge admitted yesterday he was powerless to pass a suitable sentence on a 14-year-old boy with 43 previous convictions who had just admitted sexually assaulting a 15-year-old girl. The boy is too young to be given a custodial sentence and has absconded repeatedly from care.

"I do not have the power as a criminal judge to meet the concern of the victim and her family, to protect this young man from himself and allay the fears of the public," Mr Justice Holland told Durham crown court, after deferring sentence for four months. His plea for greater powers came as Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, called on courts to pass tougher sentences for violent or sexual crimes.

Yeltsin poised to impose direct rule

FROM ANNE McELVOY IN MOSCOW AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday abandoned his search for a power-sharing agreement with the Russian Congress of People's Deputies after it had overwhelmingly rejected his appeal to salvage the truce reached at the last session in December.

After Mr Yeltsin stormed out of the chamber for the second successive day, his spokesman, Vyacheslav Kostikov, said: "The president has spoken his last word to congress; he has left and will not be coming back." Mr Yeltsin left the hall with his prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and other supporters.

Deputy prime minister Sergei Shakrai, a close aide of the president, added: "The smooth period of reform is over. There are only two ways out of this situation: a referendum or early elections. Otherwise we are on the verge of revolution."

Mr Yeltsin has privately asked how America and the other leading industrialised nations would respond if he took unconstitutional action to retain power. The Clinton administration was reported by the *Los Angeles Times* to be willing to continue its backing.

The G7 leaders all see Mr Yeltsin as the best hope for reforming Russia, and desperately want him to survive. But they would find it difficult to continue their public support, and even harder to give more financial aid, if he resorted to presidential rule and disbanded the congress.

Mr Yeltsin had appealed to the congress yesterday for a compromise and warned deputies that their hostile tactics would lead "not to parliamentary power, nor to dual power, but to a power vacuum which would dangerously weaken Russia".

In this situation, he said, he would consider "extraordinary measures", a statement taken by the chamber to mean the instigation of direct Kremlin rule, which brought forth shouts of angry protest. Mr Yeltsin, barely controlling his temper, told them: "You can take that the way you want. You're the ones who are so keen on taking to the streets."

The Russian leader said that any attempts to curb his powers by ending the previous agreement would provoke an all-or-nothing referendum on who rules Russia, but this ultimatum failed to deter congress from voting by 656 to 184 against him.

Hatton is cleared of fraud

BY RONALD FAUX

A JUBILANT Derek Hatton was cleared yesterday of defrauding Liverpool city council over land deals.

Merseyside police said last night that Operation Cheetah, which brought Mr Hatton to trial, will continue. Mr Hatton, however, said serious questions had to be asked about why the charges had been brought.

The jury at Mold Crown Court took seven-and-a-half hours to clear Mr Hatton, former deputy leader of the council. Hannah Folan and John Nelson, former councillors, and John Monk, a Liverpool businessman, were also cleared of fraud charges at the end of the eight-week trial. The charges concerned allegations that derelict land owned by the council was leased for use as car parks at less than the market value.

Operation Cheetah was launched by Merseyside police in June 1990 in the wake of speculation about deals involving council-owned land. Last night Det Chf Supt Ray Walker, of Merseyside CID, said the investigation would continue as more matters had to be considered.

Call for enquiry, page 3

Lamont plans few big tax increases

BY ANATOLE KALETSKY, ECONOMICS EDITOR

NORMAN Lamont is expected to announce a sharp reduction in the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement in Tuesday's Budget without having to raise taxes by more than £2 billion. Big tax increases are likely to be confined to petrol and tobacco, while lower-paid taxpayers should benefit from an expansion of the 20p lower tax band introduced in the last Budget.

Instead of extending value-added tax to zero-rated goods such as food, newspapers and public transport, the Chancellor of the Exchequer is likely to announce a consultation exercise, leading to a green paper on Vat reform. Firm proposals to broaden the coverage of Vat would then be announced in the next Budget, to be delivered in November.

The expected fall in the PSBR projection for next year, to below £40 billion, will be due mainly to a higher forecast for economic growth than the one made last November. This should allow the Chancellor to deliver a politically popular Budget, while reassuring financial markets and Tory backbenchers that the public deficit was gradually being brought under control.

The main populist measure is likely to be an extension of the 20p lower tax band. By freezing personal tax allowances instead of adjusting them for inflation, the Chancellor could raise enough money to extend the 20p band from £2,000 to £3,250. A more radical option the Treasury has considered would restrict personal tax allowances to the basic rate. This move, combined with the freezing of allowances, would allow the 20p band to be extended from £2,000 to almost £5,000.

An interest rate cut in the Budget appears unlikely. With leading investment managers around the world predicting a sharp rise in sterling if Mr Lamont delivers a relatively painless Budget, the City is betting on at least one more cut in base rates before the summer holidays.

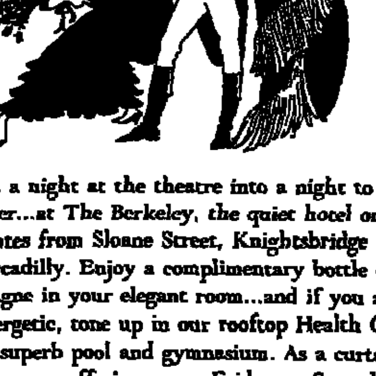
Jim O'Neill, head of financial research at Swiss Bank Corporation, said last night that the fear of a tight Budget was now the main factor weakening the pound. "People are worried about holding sterling ahead of the Budget in case Lamont turns into Geoffrey Howe and springs a massive tax increase," he said.

Labour attack, page 2

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Hurd plays down trouble caused by Tory squabbling

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND ROBERT MORGAN

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, admitted yesterday that the government had a "tactical problem" in trying to push the Maastricht bill through the Commons, as Tory infighting over the treaty assumed almost farcical proportions.

While the warring factions in the party studied the ramifications of the government's decision to back away from almost certain defeat in a procedural vote on Thursday night, Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative party chairman, was embroiled in disputes with two leading Eurosceptics.

In a letter to *The Times* today, Sir Norman denies claims by Nicholas Budgen, MP for Wolverhampton South West, that he has encouraged party workers to consider the deselection of Tory members.

But last night Sir Norman came under attack from another quarter when Alan Clark, an outspoken Thatcherite former minister and a contender for the Tory candidacy in the forthcoming Newbury by-election, said he had been given the brush-off by the party high command.

Mr Clark, a maverick who said that he now regrets his decision to vacate his Plymouth Sutton seat at the last election, said in an interview with the *Evening Standard* that he has "had all the signals of the 'get lost' kind" from Sir Norman.

A spokesman for Conservative Central Office said: "This is entirely a matter for the local association and Central Office has not and will not interfere."

Rebel Tories would be delighted if Mr Clark won the nomination because, while he is prepared to vote for the treaty, he makes little attempt to disguise his contempt for it. Loyalists are appalled at the prospect of him standing in a normally safe seat that could well fall to the Liberal Democrats. They realise that if he won the nomination, the by-election would become a referendum on the treaty and an acute embarrassment.

Mr Clark suggested that he might not get as far as the selection committee in the Berkshire town. "You'd think if you had been a privy councillor and a minister they'd see you out of curiosity. If not, they must be afraid of something. It's a compliment really."

Speaking on BBC radio, Mr Hurd echoed Downing Street officials in seeking to play down the government's latest mauling at the hands of the Tory rebels and their allies in the opposition parties. The whips abandoned their plans for a late sitting in the Commons on Thursday after the Liberal Democrats refused to pledge their support.

"We were not able to go beyond 10 o'clock last night, which is a pity, but we are making slow steady progress and we will go on doing so. We are more than half way through the committee stage," Mr Hurd said yesterday. He was confident that the government would get its bill through parliament.

However, the reaction of pro-European MPs, spoiling for a fight with their anti-Maastricht colleagues, undermined official efforts to shrug off what John Major was said to regard as a "minor setback".

Mr Clark hardly advanced his chances of winning the candidature or the cause of party unity, the subject of a rare direct appeal from the chief whip at the 1922 Committee of Conservative backbenchers, by saying in his interview that Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, had "had it" and that the government was "jittery and insecure".

Mr Clark, who has escaped prosecution over his role in the arms-to-Iraq affair, accused Mr Heseltine of making two U-turns in ten days over the planned pit closures.

Mr Clark, a former defence minister, lived up to his reputation as a political eccentric by saying that he found Baroness Thatcher "frightfully attractive" but that he did not "actually want to jump on top of her".



Smith: the prime minister is "like a rabbit blinking in the glare of recession"

Smith makes scathing attack on 'clueless and inept' Major

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith yesterday compared the prime minister to a rabbit blinking helplessly in the headlights of the recession.

At the party's Scottish conference in Inverness, the Labour leader said there had never been such an "inept, clueless and incompetent" government in post-war history and accused it of pulling the whole country down. Referring to the government's defeat over Maastricht on Monday, he said: "We have witnessed the chaos at the heart of this government."

Mr Smith said Monday's defeat could easily have been avoided as there was no reason for a vote. "John Major's humiliation was entirely self-inflicted," he said. All Mr Major had to do was to accept the Opposition amendment on the European committee of regions but he was not prepared to do so.

Mr Smith dubbed Mr Major the "magical disillusionist who had fed the people with false policies causing industries to vanish before their eyes". Far from being a magician, Mr Major was a rabbit that the Conservative party had pulled out of its hat two years ago. "And as the juggernaut of slump and recession comes bearing down on him, he sits there blinking, like all rabbits do, caught in the glare."

On next week's Budget, Mr Smith reminded the Chancellor that before the election Mr Major had categorically denied there would be an increase in VAT. "If the Tories put up VAT, the British people will have been massively betrayed."

Norman Lamont would be judged by one measure alone: whether his Budget would create jobs. Apart from being a personal disaster for millions, unemployment was an economic millstone around the country's neck.

Hurd urges media royalty truce

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE royal family deserves a period of calm to help its members to reassert the tradition of public service, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said yesterday.

Pointing out that a host of national institutions were under siege as never before, Mr Hurd called for a better balance between the achievers and the critics in society.

He deplored the growing destructive power of the media across a broad swath of the nation's life and attacked the "pack" mentality of supposedly serious political reporters and broadcasters. He complained of declining standards of accuracy.

In a speech in Oxford, Mr Hurd said that over the past 30 years there had been a marked shift of talent and effort away from achievement into criticism.

People who did things, rather than those who were paid to pass judgment on their efforts, were finding life increasingly difficult. "A lot of people ... make a lot of money from caricaturing and criticising the royal family," he said. "It is perhaps not too much to ask on their behalf for a period of calm during which they can reassert, each in his or her own way, the tradition of public service to which they are clearly dedicated."

He said the monarchy was not a "picturesque appendage" that could be casually toyed with. It was the "focus of loyalty and service" and, as in the past, it was adapting to the times.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Botulism suspected in caviar poisoning

Hundreds of tubs of cheap caviar were withdrawn from supermarket shelves yesterday after a severe case of food poisoning started a botulism scare. The health department advised shoppers to destroy or return Macrae lumpfish caviar as government scientists investigated the case of Carmen Weekes, 48, who was treated in intensive care at the Haslar Hospital, in Portsmouth.

She bought the 100g tub at a Safeway supermarket on the Isle of Wight earlier this week but the results of tests which could confirm botulism will not be known until Monday. The manufacturers, Macfish of Fraserburgh, Grampian, who mainly supply the Safeway chain, have withdrawn stocks in all pack sizes and all codes.

A spokesman for the health department said last night: "The withdrawal follows concern regarding the manufacturing process within the factory. Consumers are advised not to eat this product which should be destroyed or returned to the store where it was purchased. This is only a suspected case of botulism." Matt Clark, a Macfish director, said: "The case affects only one product which has been voluntarily withdrawn as a precautionary measure. We are fully co-operating with investigators."

MI5 chief accuses paper

Stella Rimington, director general of MI5, is to make a formal complaint to the data protection registrar over an alleged violation of her privacy in *The Sunday Times* which disclosed details of her private life, including bank and credit card transactions. The newspaper said it had broken no laws in piecing together her movements using a private enquiry agent. Breaches of the 1984 Data Protection Act may lead to a maximum £2,000 fine. Some offences may be tried in crown court, where the fine is unlimited.

Somerville co-ed move

Governors of Somerville College, Oxford, have brought forward the admission of men to October 1994. Protests at the all-women college had led Lord Jenkins, Oxford's chancellor, to recommend a delay until 1995. The college said he had approved 1994 after it had consulted students. Most students preferred an early change if one had to be made.

Porn ring smashed

Up to 100 girls, including many as young as eight, are alleged to have been the victims of a ring of artists and photographers specialising in indecent photographs. Four men, including a London photographer and a West Country painter, have been arrested by Scotland Yard's obscene publications squad.

Cunningham in clear

No action will be taken against Dr Jack Cunningham, the shadow foreign secretary, after Cumbria police investigated expenses from his general election win in Copeland last year, police said. The investigations followed complaints by Philip Davies, the defeated Tory candidate. Police said there was insufficient evidence.

Teenager's £23,000 bill

Jobless Franco Fernandez, 19, stole his father's American Express card and left South Shields, Tyne and Wear, for a £23,000 tour of Europe and America. Newcastle Crown Court was told yesterday. The court gave him 12 months probation and ordered him to do 100 hours community service after he admitted 220 charges of deception.

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Birt and the BBC

The outsider set apart by his past

BY ALAN FRANKS

The rise of John Birt to the top of broadcasting has been a cryptic affair, and the best kept secret was the man himself

THE tax arrangements of the BBC's director-general may have been a private matter until ten days ago, but they are not his only enigma: John Birt's best-kept secret is John Birt. His rise to the summit of broadcasting has been a cryptic affair, applauded by his former colleagues in commercial television but resented by many of the BBC old guard who are part of an institution still resistant to change.

Fear of Birt, and of "Birtism", has been fear of the unknown. During his 18 months as director-general designate, he had to operate in the shadow of his predecessor, Sir Michael Checkland. This long period of standing so visibly in the wings has combined with three other factors to cast a sinister aura around him.

First, there has been difficulty with his projection of his image, with an alarmingly halting delivery as a public speaker and a seeming coldness of expression behind the glasses.

Second, there was his savage attack on standards in the current affairs department soon after he joined the BBC in 1987 as deputy director-general, and the subsequent reorganisations there. With his assertion that the BBC must contract in order to survive in the new marketplace, this has sparked off widespread fear about job security.

Third, there was the manner of his coming. He was not "boarded" for the appointment in the usual manner of the corporation, but invited to take the post by the board of governors. Its chairman, Marmaduke Hussey, was his most enthusiastic champion, just as he has been his staunchest defender throughout the controversy about his pay arrangements.

Birt's is a classic story of the outsider who makes it to the top while avoiding assimilation. His position as an outsider stems from his background, which is Liverpool lower/middle class rather than comfortable South-East medialand; in his training, which was physics and engineering, not arts; even in his Oxford education, which was the new St Catherine's College of the early 1960s rather than one of the historic élite; and finally in his career, which was Granada and London Weekend Television, rather than the BBC. This last factor is the most relevant to his present troubles. In establishing himself as a private company, Birt was conforming to to the practice of producers in the commercial sector. But it goes against the conventions of the BBC. It has created a clash of incompatible cultures, and at a time when the BBC is poised to take more programmes from outside producers and is keeping a keen eye on their financial arrangements.

Those who knew him in his early days as a Granada trainee say Birt is in essence an unreformed sixties man, despite the Armani suits and the late eighties corporate rhetoric. He is a diligent theatregoer, but still scans the listings magazine *Time Out* for a show by the Everly Brothers, Bob Dylan or Neil Young. He has reinvented himself with the same thoroughness he employed as the editor of *Weekend World* in the early seventies.

Observers keen to identify his true social and cultural context have pointed to a Liverpool mafia. Lunches for famous Liverpudlians are held regularly at his home in south London, but the occasions are conducted with self-parody and are far from earnest. Guests have included Roger McGough, the poet; Anne Robinson, the TV presenter; Laurie Taylor, the sociologist; Colette Bowe, the civil servant at the heart of the Westland affair; Lord Runcie, the former Archbishop of Canterbury; Beryl Bainbridge, the novelist; and Cilla Black, his proudest signing and hostess of his favourite programme, *Blind Date*. This is no mafia, but a collection of people who supply his continuing need for a sense of belonging. The closer one looks, the more the contradictions abound. The two main political parties have both reckoned to have his allegiance at one time or another. The truth is that neither does. At the 1979 election he was taken to be a James Callaghan man, as the then prime minister had reportedly credited Birt with being an adviser. Not true, says Birt. "I only ever saw him socially, in company with Margaret (his daughter), or Peter." (Peter Jay, then married to Margaret, is arguably the strongest influence on Birt's career.)

> 'People always assume that if you are in a position like this, you have plotted carefully. It's not true'

He remains close friends with them both, and with past colleagues including Greg Dyke, chief executive of London Weekend Television, and Nick Elliott, managing director of LWT programmes. Other friends include Peter Mandelson, MP and former director of campaigns and communications for the Labour party, and, in sharp contrast, Richard Shepherd, the Conservative MP with a passionate interest in broadcasting freedom. There is also Ronald Dworkin, the American-born professor of jurisprudence at Oxford University. Again, this is no closed circle, but a bunch of disparate friends of the kind collected over the years by many a broad-ranging journalist.

Birt is a man caught between the spirit of the sixties and that of the late eighties, between the We Generation and the Me Generation, between flower power and corporate power. Yesterday's announcement of the move from his long-standing, and once bead-wearing, accountant, Michael Henshaw, to the large firm of Ernst and Young can be seen as another part of this passage between the alternative and the "straight".

In an interview with *The Times* recently, he said: "People always assume that if you are in a position like this, you have plotted and planned your way very carefully indeed. But it's not true at all." Life, he concluded, is a bit like a novel, meaning that the characters are not quite as autonomous as they might think. The Birt narrative has taken an ominous twist.

MPs' anger, page 1

CORRECTION

A caption on March 6 should have said that the locomotive hauling a train pictured on the Ribblehead Viaduct was the *Duchess of Hamilton*, and not, as stated, the *Flying Scotsman*.

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Police to continue investigation amid accusations of waste in prosecuting over 'grotty bits of land'

Hatton cleared of property fraud as £10m trial ends

By Ronald Faux

DEREK Hatton was cleared of defrauding Liverpool City Council by a jury at Mold Crown Court yesterday and immediately demanded an inquiry into why he had been prosecuted in the first place.

Two other former councillors, Hannah Folan, 47, and John Nelson, 49, and John Monk, a Liverpool businessman, were also found not guilty.

After leaving the court, Mr Hatton, the former deputy leader of Liverpool, accused Merseyside police of wasting £10m in bringing him to trial. Drinking champagne from a teacup, he said: "We are talking about the assistant chief constable in Liverpool standing up three and a half years ago and saying this was going to be the biggest fraud trial since Poulson. It then came down to two scrappy, grotty bits of land which nobody since Hitler had shown any interest in. That was the reality of what we were faced with."

He refused to be drawn on whether he felt he had been made a political scapegoat or had been prosecuted for political reasons. The eight-week trial followed three years of inquiries by the Merseyside fraud squad, whose Operation Cheetah investigated rumours of fraudulent land deals in Liverpool.

Afterward the verdict was announced, Mr Hatton said he felt total relief. His family had gone through three and a half years of things they did not deserve. "Questions have to be asked. Important and serious questions about why all this went on."

The prosecution had claimed that sites in Liverpool owned by the council had not been put out to tender, but had been leased for less than their market value.

Det Supt Robert Coady, who led the investigation, had made it clear that Operation Cheetah would continue and that further matters were under consideration. It would be up to the Crown Prosecution Service to decide what action to take. He said it would have been impossible for the police to ignore the overwhelming volume of rumour circulating in Liverpool and allegations of dubious land deals reported in the national press.

Mr Hatton, 45, and Mr Monk each faced two charges of defrauding the city council and Mr Nelson and Ms Folan faced one fraud charge each.

Operation Cheetah is believed to be the biggest investigation launched into alleged fraud in local government. It began in April 1990 and up to 50 police officers were involved.

They took down 1,080 statements and amassed 6,300 documents. So great was the volume of material that the Holmes (Home Office Large Major Enquiry System) computer, normally used in complex murder investigations, was brought in for the first time in a corruption inquiry.

Six months later Operation Grouse was launched by police with a series of dawn raids on homes and offices on Merseyside and throughout the North West. Mr Hatton, Ms Folan, Mr Nelson and Mr Monk were among 22 people arrested on October 26, 1990. Seventeen were later released without charge and Mr Nelson, a Liverpool businessman, was cleared of fraud earlier in the hearing.

The prosecution had alleged that two derelict sites in Manesty's Lane and Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, had been leased for less than their market value as car parks. The court had heard that the turnover of the two car parks over two and a half years had amounted to £350,000.

The allegation was that Mr Hatton had used his contacts on the council to discover likely development sites and through Ms Folan and Mr Nelson, both of whom had been chairmen of the estate's sub-committee which made the decision, was able to lease the sites to Mr Monk.



Nickname: Hatton's car number plate

COLIN LANE



Family man: Hatton outside court with his wife Shirley and son Ben; they went through "three and a half years of things they did not deserve"

Degsy: politician for whom image was all

FOR Derek Hatton, image was everything. The supporter of Militant with the penchant for powerful cars, sharp suits and a well-serviced sun tan gave appearances the highest political and personal priority (Ronald Faux writes).

"Degsy" — a nickname inscribed on the personalised number plate of his Jaguar — was a street-wise Scouser. He was also deputy leader of Liverpool City Council, defending services and defying the government in a confrontation that cost the city dear. He saw no contradiction between revolutionary politics and wheeler-dealing in the world of property development and public relations.

Throughout his trial, he remained pugnaciously confident. When most defendants might have been preoccupied with the case, he made a beeline for an artist working for a television company. With a smile he said: "You've made my nose too big."

He could never be accused of lacking self-esteem. Etched on a mirror on his office wall was: "Yes, Derek, you look terrific," and almost from the moment he was elected to the council in the late 1970s he was making headlines.

Nationalisation of the banks and refusal to pay interest charges on loans were two moves that he believed Liverpool should lead and which he promoted early in his political career.

He became deputy leader of the Labour group on the council when it won power in 1983 and his hectoring style shook the city administration.

On all sides of the council chamber they pour scorn on his record. The most charitable assessment of the legacy that he and the Militant caucus left Liverpool is that it was a curate's egg — good in parts.

During his deputy leadership the council claimed that more than 4,000 houses and bungalows had been built, 2,300 tenements and 1,500 flats demolished, six sports centres opened and 10,000 building workers employed. The down-side to this list, the present leadership says, is a city debt now approaching £900 million.

When Mr Hatton was expelled from the Labour party in June 1986 he stayed on as deputy leader, supported by his colleagues. In November he resigned, a "proud, sad and bitter" man, proud, he said, at the Labour group's achievements, sad at leaving, and bitter at his expulsion.

His political career over, he launched himself into Settleside, his public relations consultancy based in Liverpool. His business appeared to prosper, but six years on his shadow still lingered in the council corridors and the contacts he maintained with former colleagues there attracted the attention of the fraud squad.

Spy jury acquits NCP chief

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Correspondent

BRITAIN'S biggest industrial espionage trial ended yesterday with the acquittal of Gordon Layton, chief executive of National Car Parks, and an estimated £4 million bill for the investigation.

The case rested on an espionage operation that cost NCP £46,600. It began when Mr Layton suspected his company contained a "mole" and he was concerned business was being lost to Europarks.

During the eight-week Old Bailey trial, the court was told that former SAS soldiers and other investigators working for a security company called KAS infiltrated Europarks and put a female spy at the heart of the company.

Last night Stephen Tucker, who was head of Europarks, which was taken over by NCP, said he was disappointed by the verdict and questioned whether the law should change. He said he had hoped the publicity might have deterred other industrial spies.

Mr Layton, 56, of Regent's Park, central London, and Simon Hewitt, 38, a former manager of KAS, were acquitted of conspiracy to defraud Europarks by dishonestly acquiring information about its business affairs.

Judge Hawkins also ordered a verdict of not guilty recorded against Jane Turpin, 31, who infiltrated Europarks for KAS. She was not tried for medical reasons. The prosecution also offered no evidence against Mr Hewitt on a charge of obtaining a pecuniary advantage by deception by helping Miss Turpin prepare a false curriculum vitae.

Mr Layton was refused an application for costs.

Tony Hoffman, Mr Layton's solicitor, said there was never any dispute that industrial espionage had taken place but the defence said that KAS and its founder, the late Sir David Stirling, had said that everything would be legal.

Europarks might never have known what had happened if KAS had not started to collapse. When Mr Crook was out of Britain his role was filled Mr Hewitt, a former officer with the Royal Green Jackets and the territorial SAS. In 1990 he was sacked and went to *The Sunday Times* about his grievances.

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Speakers will include Alan Clark, the historian, former Defence Minister and first contributor to the series. Other participants will include the radical lawyer Michael Mansfield QC, Sheila McKechnie of Shelter, Michael Winner, the film director, and Professor Paul Kennedy, the author of *Preparing for the Twenty-First Century*.

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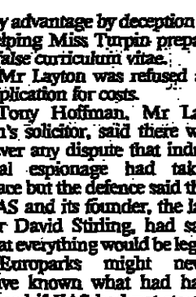
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THE SUNDAY TIMES

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apostrophe: A punctuation mark that signals the omission of letters or numbers (*she'll, n't, the '70s*) or expresses a grammatical contrast (chiefly the genitive construction, as in *the cat's foot*). There is considerable uncertainty surrounding certain uses of the apostrophe



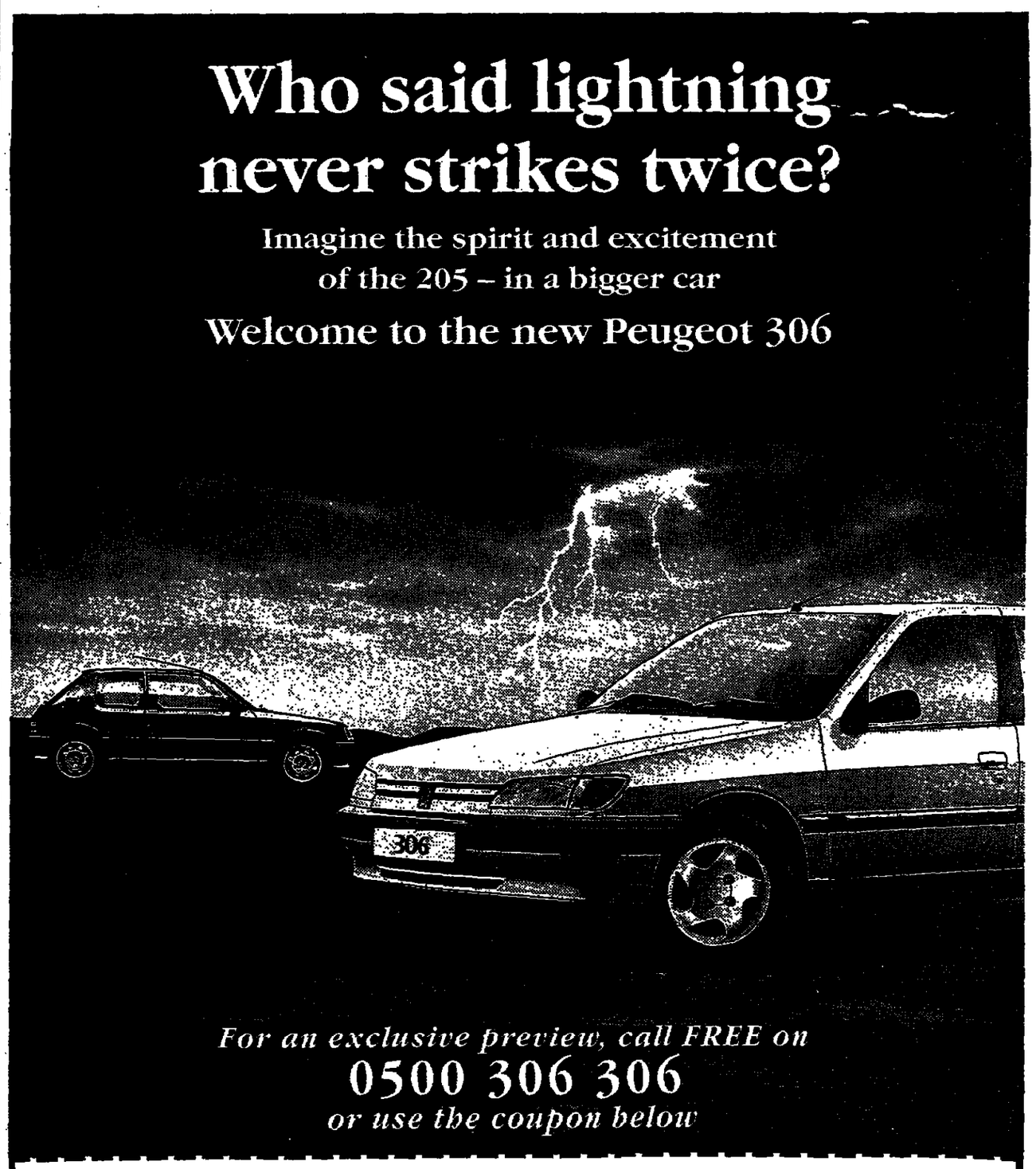
in modern English, with forms such as *the 1960s* and *the 1960's* or *St Pauls* and *St Paul's* being used variously. There is some evidence to suggest that incorrect usage is increasing — both in errors of omission (when it should be present, as in *the girls hat*) and in errors of addition (when it should be absent, as in *I saw the dog's*).

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Taxes on pollution offer way out of the red and into the green


Howard: canvassed idea of emission tax

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE Chancellor has a tempting opportunity in next week's Budget, and again in December, to create new sources of revenue and at the same time to buff up the government's tarnished "green" credentials

What could be a more virtuous way of reducing the shortfall between public revenue and spending — predicted to force the government to borrow £38 billion during this financial year — than taxing pollution?

One of the more radical options would be a carbon-cum-energy tax of the kind being discussed by the European Community as part of an armoury of measures aimed at stabilising emissions of carbon dioxide at 1990 levels by 2000, a target accepted at the Earth summit in Rio. Carbon dioxide is one of the main gases blamed for global warming.

The merits of such a tax were cautiously canvassed by Michael Howard, the environment secretary, in a discussion paper published by his department last December which noted that "96 per cent of the UK's man-made carbon dioxide emissions come from the burning of fossil fuels for energy use".

Half the tax would be levied uniformly on all sources of energy other than renewable ones (which, apart from nuclear energy, would be excluded); and half would be graduated according to the carbon content of individual fuels. The net effect would be a tax equivalent to $3 on a barrel of oil this year, rising by $1 annually to $10 by 2000.

The tax would raise about £7 billion a year but the Treasury remains sceptical and industry generally opposed. The CBI says that Britain would put itself at a disadvantage compared with countries such as France, which produces far more of its electricity from nuclear power. A further snag is that Brussels recommends that the carbon/energy tax should be made "fiscally neutral" by cutting other taxes by an equivalent amount, to avoid putting a brake on economic growth.

The debate has been complicated by the government's predicted U-turn on pit closures. Burning coal to generate electricity emits twice as much carbon dioxide as using gas. A carbon tax would thus further reduce the economic viability of coal, increasing its cost by nearly 60 per cent by 2000. The impact on the pump price of petrol would be no more than 6 per cent, not much of an incentive to reduce demand for fuel for road transport, the main cause of rising carbon dioxide emissions.

Other ways of raising revenue for which a green case could be advanced would be an extension of value-added tax to cover domestic fuel and an increase in the pump price of petrol through a hike in excise duty. The latter is widely expected next week. A "significant" petrol price rise is advocated by the Advisory Committee on Business and the Environment, which is chaired by John Collins, chief executive of Shell UK. Even the CBI accepts that higher fuel prices may be needed to meet environmental targets.

The Automobile Association would prefer an increase in the price differential between petrol and more environmentally-friendly unleaded petrol and diesel. Although 80 per cent of cars are capable of running on unleaded petrol, only 40-45 per cent do so and no more than 4 per cent run on diesel. The association also accepts in principle that vehicle excise duty, now uniformly levied at £110, should be graduated to penalise petrol-guzzling cars.

Army of civil servants still half the size of military

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE size of the armed forces and the number of civilians supporting them are falling rapidly but there is still one civil servant for every two men and women in uniform.

The steady erosion of jobs inside and outside the defence ministry and ministers' attempts to match civilian cuts with those in uniformed personnel are revealed in a series of statistical papers.

For the first time the number of soldiers, sailors and airmen has dropped below 280,000, according to the ministry. The figure for civil servants is almost exactly half that number.

The number of UK-based civilians employed by the defence ministry dropped from 141,372 in April 1990 to 137,793 by December 1992, a reduction of 3,579 posts. Over approximately the same two years, armed forces' manpower has been cut from 305,711 in April 1990 to 278,853 by February 1 this year, a reduction of 26,858.

Under the Options for Change defence cuts, manpower in the three services is to come down to a total of 249,000 by April 1995, with the army on 119,000, the Royal Navy on 55,000 and the RAF on 75,000. The civil service at the ministry is being reduced by 20 per cent and ministers have pledged to keep the cuts in civilian manpower in line with the uniformed personnel reductions.

There is expected to be an increasing squeeze on uniformed and civilian manpower over the next few years because of the high cost of wages. Cuts in manpower bring immediate savings and the defence ministry is looking for ways of making additional cuts in the budget to meet new Treasury targets.

With the armed services already facing substantial cuts, civilian manpower levels are being subjected to special market testing programmes. Services now carried out by ministry employees are being handed over to private firms that prove they can do the work more cheaply.

Ministers have pledged to expose to competition over the next four years services that cost more than £1 billion. So far, private companies have taken over areas such as parachute maintenance, food distribution and elementary flying training.

There is also a commitment to reduce the number of most senior officers in the three services, such as generals, admirals and air marshals, none of whom will be eligible for the generous redundancy payments paid to less senior officers and other ranks.

At present there are 74 generals, the equivalent of one for every 1,850 officers and other ranks. There are 225 brigadiers and 2,350 colonels.

In the navy and Royal Marines, there are 48 admirals and three generals respectively, the equivalent of one for every 1,178 naval personnel. There are 36 commodores and more than 360 captains.

In the RAF there are 54 air marshals, the equivalent of one for every 1,514 men and women in the service. There are also 111 air commodores, 409 group captains and 1,350 wing commanders.

The latest figures for the armed services show that the level of intake of recruits into the forces has dropped sharply to meet new budget restrictions. For the navy and the marines, the recruit intake has dropped from 6,583 in April last year to 2,953 by February 1. The number of army recruits has fallen from 17,138 last year to just over 13,000, and RAF recruits from 4,186 to 1,441.

NICK ROGERS


A hunting we will go: farmers say the number of lambs killed by foxes has increased and that town dwellers fail to understand the problem

Foxes blamed for killing a lamb in every 100

BY LIN JENKINS

A THIRD of sheep farmers have seen their lambs killed by foxes, according to a survey designed to debunk the views of the anti-hunting lobby.

The survey maintains that 1 per cent of lambs are lost to foxes within weeks of being born.

The survey was carried out by *The Field*. Anti-hunting groups had maintained that the problem was minimal and that only the occasional rogue animal took lambs.

A questionnaire was sent to 11,000 members of the National Sheep Association and the statistics collated from a random sample numbering 1,009 of the 14 per cent who replied.

The figures were similar for hill, lowland and upland farms.

Some suffered more than others, with 11 per cent reporting losses to foxes of more than 30 lambs a year, bringing a financial loss of more than £500.

Seven out of ten sheep farmers had seen foxes among their flock and took the view that lambs from multiple births were more at risk. Around 60 per cent of those who responded had seen a fox eating an afterbirth.

Caroline Bankes, deputy editor of the magazine, said that the survey was commissioned to prove that foxes were not cuddly and cute animals living on a diet of rabbits and moles. "Perhaps those who live in towns who think we should ban fox-hunting should listen to what the farmers have to say," she said.

Nicholas Archdale, who runs 4,000 breeding ewes on 2,000 acres in Wales, said he had seen foxes take lambs on three occasions. "It is impossible to say how many we lose. If twins lambs are born we might have lost one without knowing it had even been born," he said.

Prints left in the snow, heads chewed off and left behind and bones outside earths are, he said, proof that the fox is a significant predator. "It is nothing to make a big fuss about. Badgers take lambs too in certain circumstances.

"Obviously foxes have to be reasonably restrained to stop the problem becoming too great. It is all nature. It is only urban do-gooders who don't know what goes on in the country who think that farmers are cruel, whereas we are maintaining a reasonable balance."

Farmers reported killings by foxes to be higher during April when vixens had cubs to feed. One Cornish farmer, who runs a pack of hounds which has killed 300 foxes this season, said foxes were taking an increasing number of lambs. "I know one farmer who has lost three lambs of more than a month old already this year. We always used to leave the afterbirths and the dead lambs for the fox; rather that than they take a live healthy one." More farmers are lambing indoors, reducing the number of afterbirths and stillborn or sick animals which are more likely to be eaten by foxes.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food estimates that 5 per cent of lamb deaths are caused by misadventure or predators.

☐ A measure to outlaw hare coursing failed to gain a second reading in the Commons.

The hare coursing bill, piloted by Harry Cohen, Labour MP for Leyton, had cross-party support. A cry of "object" in the chamber prevented it getting a second reading, effectively killing its chances of becoming law.

Strathclyde police test knife-proof vests

BY OUR SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

STRATHCLYDE police force is piloting the use of knife-proof vests in an effort to protect officers dealing with an increasing number of stabbings. The force is one of the first in the country to test the vests, which have only recently been approved by the Home Office.

Forty-seven people were stabbed to death in Strathclyde last year and many more were seriously injured. Police officers were confronted with knives on 92 occasions last year and three officers were stabbed. As recently as last Friday, a policeman was stabbed in Renfrew, just outside Glasgow.

The Bladesafe vests are manufactured by Protection Products International using a metal alloy similar to that used in fighter aircraft. The vests, which cost about £280 each, can be worn by both men and women. They contain a series of flexible metal plates encased in cloth and weigh 3.5kg.

Charles Macrae, managing director of PPI, said that the vests had been developed over a number of years, but had been in production for only a matter of months. Orders are also coming from Germany and Scandinavia.

"There have been a couple of cases recently when female police officers have been stabbed. Had they been wearing one of our vests, they would have been better protected," Mr Macrae said.

The decision by Strathclyde police to pilot the vests coincides with the force's Operation Blade campaign. An amnesty is operating at present in Strathclyde and people are being encouraged to surrender knives anonymously to the police. In the past fortnight more than 1,100 weapons have been handed in.

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Minicab law will cut danger for women

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE government is planning legislation to protect women minicab users from the menace and danger of unlicensed drivers. The move follows increasing demands from the police for action.

Steven Norris, the London transport minister, is considering ensuring that anyone applying for a local authority licence to run a minicab must agree to submit to a criminal records check. At present, there is nothing to prevent a sex offender just released from prison climbing behind the wheel of a car and touting for trade.

Women in London are most likely to encounter the problem, but some other urban centres also fail to regulate minicab operators. A government working party report last year conceded that uncontrolled minicabs gave scope for individuals to operate in "an unscrupulous and possibly criminal fashion".

Police believe unlicensed minicabs are the most dangerous form of tranport. The Suzy Lamplugh Trust estimates that passengers suffer some distress once in every 200 journeys. Women are at most risk late at night when unlicensed cabs, which have not been ordered, cruise around night spots illegally picking up passengers.

Any potential legislation, particularly measures to check criminal records, poses civil rights questions and also threatens to alienate the black-cab trade in London, which is already subject to stringent controls.

ITV chiefs to launch God's own game show

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A RELIGIOUS game show featuring a battle of wit and biblical knowledge between teams of God-fearing celebrity contestants is to be launched on ITV in June.

The players on the Sunday lunchtime programme *Divine Inspiration!* will be asked to identify biblical stories from tabloid-style newspaper headlines, to paraphrase gospel passages in politically correct language or to name hymns sung backwards.

Robin Paxton, head of current affairs and features at London Weekend Television, said that the show was designed to "bring a little fun to the area of religion" and had received the blessing of at least one bishop.

The multi-faith programme, hosted by a television personality with religious leanings, will pitch two team captains and two invited celebrity guests against each other. The emphasis will be on visual and quirky humour.

Peter Stanford, former editor of the *Catholic Herald*, welcomed the programme, but said that the producers would have to be careful. "In my experience believers tend not like to laugh about religion."

☐ BBC Radio One is to launch a humorous religious show, *The Big One*, which will be hosted by the disc jockey Simon Mayo.

It will feature slots such as "heretic of the week" and "the bishop and the actress", in which television or film stars will interview ministers from a variety of faiths.

Daleks exterminate household rubbish

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

HOMES on the island of Skye are to be issued with solar-powered waste recycling units in an experiment aimed at cutting the amount of household rubbish dumped on council tips.

A hundred families on Skye and in Plockton, on the mainland, will be asked to keep the 5ft-high cone-shaped units in their back gardens for a year.

The units, which look similar to Daleks according to Norman Gillies, environmental health officer, convert organic waste into liquid fertiliser using sunlight and a special powder.

The project is costing £5,000 and is jointly funded by Skye and Lochalsh district council and the Leader European rural development programme. The areas taking part were chosen because they are furthest from the council's rubbish tip at Portree.

The solar-powered units, developed in Canada, will be in place by April. They will be filled with organic waste, which accounts for about 30 per cent of household refuse.

Shona MacLennan, of Leader, said it did not matter that Skye was renowned for its rain and mist. "You don't need much sun to work the cones. Because the air here is very clean the solar power works much better than in a polluted area. If the scheme proves successful, it could be expanded."

The experiment has been prompted by the increasing amount of household waste generated in Skye and Lochalsh and the rising costs of collecting and disposing of it. About 12,000 tonnes was collected last year and the cost of burying it in a landfill site is £10 a cubic metre. Mr Gillies said this could rise to £25 during the next four years because of tougher health and hygiene rules.

"One of the problems we have in refuse collection is the sheer size of our area and the limited resources in terms of the manpower and vehicles at our disposal. Getting people to recycle at home cuts down the number of journeys our refuse lorries make and makes collecting rubbish more cost-effective," he said.

Householders are being advised to plant the units in their vegetable patch and within three months liquid organic fertiliser will be produced.

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Government and Brussels given six-day breathing space as cheap Russian imports flood markets

Fishermen halt blockade to heal rift with EC crews

BY PAUL WILKINSON

FISHERMEN'S leaders yesterday pulled back from a national blockade of foreign imports to Britain's fish markets. They opted for negotiations with European fishermen and a lobby of EC fisheries ministers in Brussels next week.

Less than 12 hours after angry trawler crews and dock workers at Grimsby prevented another cargo of imported fish entering the port's market, leaders of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, which represents 6,000 English and Welsh fishermen, held a boisterous meeting in the Humberside port.

Richard Banks, the chief executive, said they had opted for a diplomatic rather than a "direct" solution to the glut of supplies on the British market.

Their decision was grudgingly accepted by leaders of the blockade, who said they would suspend pickets until fisheries ministers meet in Brussels in six days time.

Paul Pedersen, a Grimsby skipper, said: "This is their last chance. If they are not successful we are going to have to take action on our own. This issue has reached boiling point and they have got to do something about it."

Jorgen Bojen, of the Grimsby-registered *Monica B*, said: "We have given them six days to use diplomatic means. The onus is on the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations and the government to be quick and sort this mess out."

Nigel Atkins, the east coast representative on the federation, said: "The option of blockading was dismissed quite early in the meeting. Good luck to those who want to continue it; we don't condone it."

Mr Atkins suggested a pause in action of at least one or two months for negotiations. Top of the list was the immediate suspension of imports from Russian trawlers.

He said they would press the Council of Fisheries ministers at their meeting on March 18 to institute a temporary ban on Russian imports to allow Community fish markets to stabilise. The fishermen are seeking an immediate meeting with David Curry, Britain's fisheries minister, to secure his support in the council for a ban.

They hope to heal the growing split among EC fishermen which has led to French and British stocks being attacked in fish markets in Britain and Europe. They suggest a joint approach by EC fishermen to the Europe-wide collapse in fish markets. They claim that while quayside prices have slumped, retail prices have not dropped and are requesting a meeting with purchasers.

In the long term, the fishermen want improved government grants for decommissioning boats. Both sides agree the fishing fleet is about one fifth too large. The government is expected to offer owners around £25 million over the next three years to decommission their vessels. The fishermen believe the figure should be nearer £100 million.

Mr Atkins said they hoped Brussels could provide a joint approach to the problems of Russian dumping in Europe, spawned by the republic's desperate need for foreign currency.

Mr Atkins said: "What we shall also be asking [Brussels] for is not just a common fisheries policy in Europe, but a common level of funding. It has not been lost on our members that the French government found £36 million of temporary relief for their fishermen after disruption of the Paris fish market. Compare that with the £25 million for decommissioning we have been offered over the next three years."

He said prices for British fishermen had dropped between 30 and 50 per cent since the Russians began dumping fish on the British market earlier this year.

TONY WHITE



Opting for negotiation: Richard Banks, head of the fishermens' federation, after the meeting in Grimsby

Shoppers gain as prices start to slip

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

COLLAPSING fish prices at the quayside have stirred British and French trawlermen into revolt, but consumers may wonder why they are not seeing the full benefit in the shops. Even the price falls they have enjoyed will be wiped out if blockades of imported fish go ahead.

The prices the fishermen are complaining about are those paid at portside auction for freshly landed fish that have been gutted on board the trawler but left unfilleted and with their heads on. These prices have dropped sharply because of a recent glut of supplies.

Kurt Christensen, a fish salesman in Grimsby, Humberside, said: "Whole cod is currently fetching around 40p to 50p a lb at auction, compared with 80p to £1 in January. Haddock is going for about the same."

By the time the fish reach the shops they will cost up to six times that amount. This is because between the port and the fishmonger's slab, processors, distributors and wholesalers all take their cut. The filleted product that many consumers buy is the most valuable, edible part of the fish, whereas much of the freshly landed catch consists of worthless head and bone.

Fishermen's claims that little or none of the price fall is being passed to consumers are untrue. Sainsbury, for example, is selling cod fillets this week for £2.99 a lb, down from £3.18 a lb two months ago, and haddock fillets for £2.49 a lb, down from £3.30. Other supermarkets are offering similar prices.

Fishermen claim that Russian cod and haddock, now being caught in abundance in the Barents Sea, are undercutting minimum EC prices agreed last month in Brussels. But there is little evidence for this.

Geoffrey Molloy, chairman of the UK Association of Frozen Food Producers, said: "The much vaunted influx of Russian fish is a myth. Only 400 tonnes of fresh and less than 2,000 tonnes of frozen cod have been landed in the UK by Russian vessels so far this year."

Mr Molloy said that a ban on imports, as demanded by fishermen, could lead to a severe shortage of fish and soaring prices by the summer.

Dentist with HIV carried on working

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A DENTIST has claimed that he continued working after contracting the Aids virus and knew of others in the health professions who were working despite being HIV positive.

The dentist, from London, told LBC Radio's *Morning Report* that he had given up his practice only recently when he developed full-blown Aids.

Guidelines issued by the British Dental Association say that dentists who are, or believe they might be, HIV positive have a duty to seek medical advice and to act upon it. Failure to do so could be grounds for a charge of serious professional misconduct.

Such medical advice, however, might fall short of recommending the dentist to stop work. He or she would be more likely to be advised to stop invasive practices where there is a risk of blood-to-blood contact. The dentist on LBC, who was not named, said this was the advice he was given, and that there was no reason to give up practising altogether until he had developed Aids-related diseases.

Public concern about HIV risk has been raised by recent cases including a gynaecologist from Kent who is seriously ill with an Aids-related condition, and a trainee GP in Wales who died from Aids-related diseases. The health department ruled out routine testing of medical personnel, but ordered health authorities to ensure that all applicants for jobs involving invasive procedures should be asked to confirm that they have read the advice on HIV from their professional bodies.

The British Dental Association said yesterday that there had never been a case in Britain of a dentist infecting a patient with HIV. Doubt has recently been cast on claims that an American dentist infected five of his patients.

Lovesick boat thief sentenced

A TEENAGER who tried to cross the Channel in a stolen dinghy to see a French girl friend was sentenced to 120 hours of community service yesterday.

David Burnett, 18, was heading towards Canada in the 16ft inflatable boat when he was taken in tow by a trawler 25 miles off the Cornish coast. His equipment consisted of a spare pair of shoes and a diary containing a map of the world.

At Truro Crown Court, Assistant recorder David Barlett said: "It all seems very funny except you carried no radio or navigation equipment. You could have been killed by your own foolhardiness and so could others."

Burnett, of Falmouth, admitted taking the motor-powered boat without authority in March last year. He was in breach of a conditional discharge imposed for two other offences of taking boats without authority.



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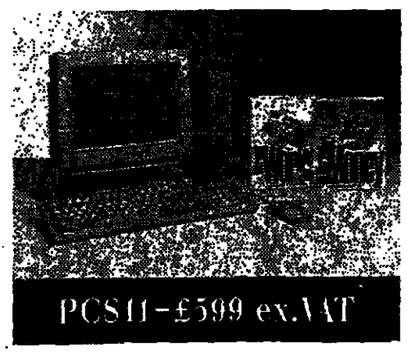
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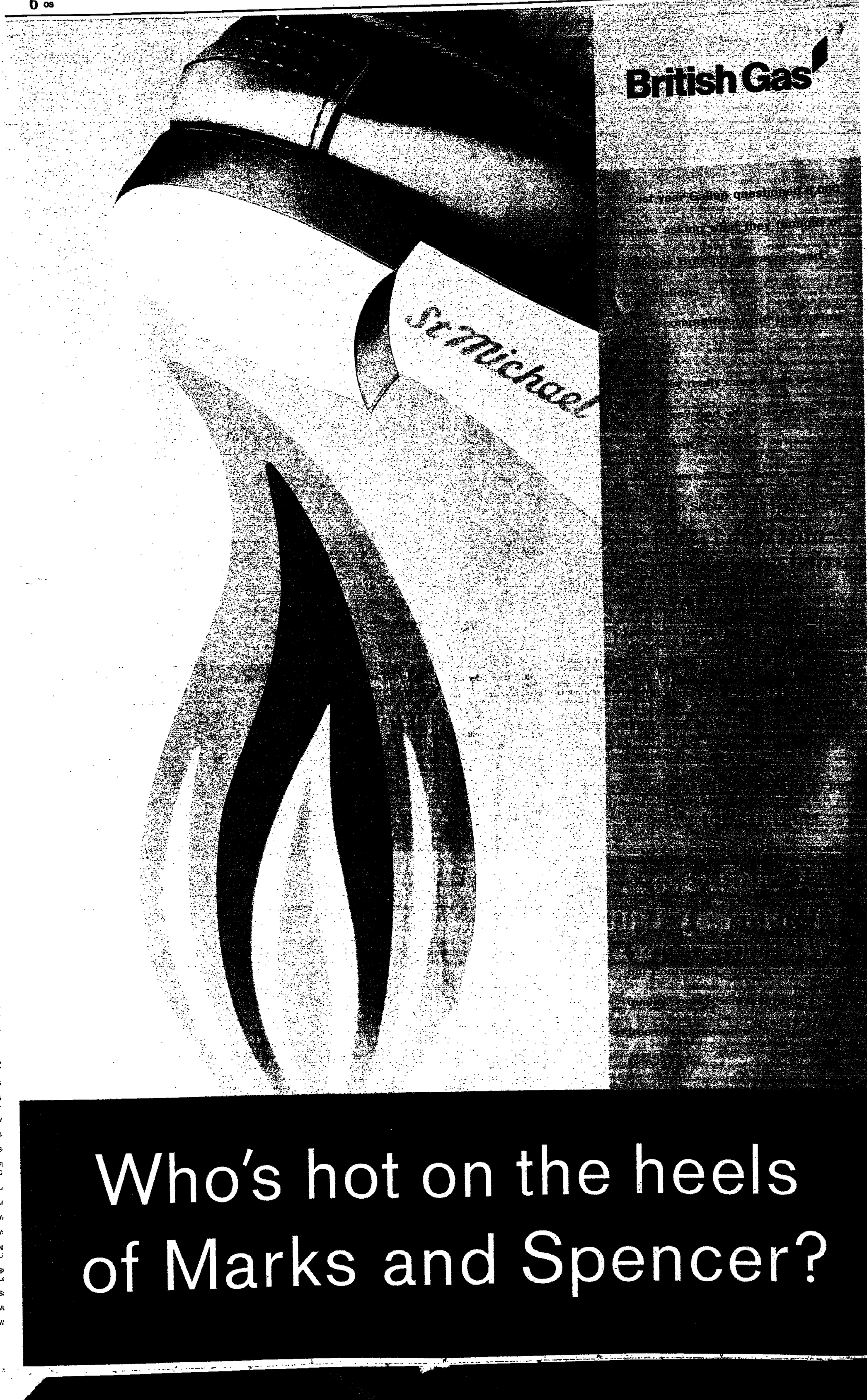
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Villagers fear link between cow illness and farmer's death

By Ray Clancy

■ Mothers and neighbouring farmers are seeking reassurance from doctors that they and their families are safe

THE village of Simister, near Manchester, was in a state of shock yesterday after the death of Peter Warhurst, the farmer whose death is being linked to "mad cow disease".

Mothers were seeking reassurance from doctors, fearful for the health of children who often walk across the fields of Mellow Dew Farm where Mr Warhurst, 61, had a herd of 60 cows. One of his animals died from bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in 1989. He had worked every day with the cows and the Warhurst family regularly drank their milk.

Mary Hall said she was concerned about what is being said about the cause of Mr Warhurst's illness. He died last September from Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a rare human equivalent of BSE.

"My children have walked down the lanes and across the fields. They have even patted some of the cows. Now I am really worried. I mean, heaven knows what sort of disease they could have picked up," Mrs Hall said.

Fears over the cause of Mr Warhurst's death have stretched beyond the village. Sheila Etchells, whose husband Jim is ill in hospital, said the farmer believes he is suffering from BSE. Mr Etchells has been treated at North Manchester General Hospital since falling ill seven months ago. A few weeks earlier an animal on his Cheshire farm was taken away after showing signs of BSE.

Doctors have told Mrs Etchells that her husband may have suffered a stroke. A hospital spokesman said: "There is insufficient evidence to make any valid link between Mr Etchells' occupation and his condition. There is no evidence that he is suffering from BSE."

But Mrs Etchells yesterday demanded a second opinion. She said her husband had been undergoing regular brain scans, which had not shown any bleeding or growths which would be expected if he had suffered a stroke. "Jim has been ill for a long time. When he was admitted to hospital the doctors thought he had been drinking. He looked and acted like a Saturday night drunk.

"When I heard about the death of another dairy farmer I went rigid. I remembered my husband's words and the problems we had had with the cow and now it all seems to be falling into place."

In Simister, where Mr Warhurst's son John now farms the 180 acres, there were messages of sympathy from villagers. Pat Jones, a neighbour, said: "Peter deteriorated rapidly and that was quite shocking, but until now we never knew what was wrong. He was unsteady on his feet, slurred his speech and was unable to move his arms and hands. We are very concerned about the latest developments."

John Warhurst, accompanied by farming union officials, said he still could not believe that his father's death was linked to BSE. "It must just be a coincidence. It cannot be anything to do with the milk or working the cows. I drank the milk of the cow that was ill and I treated the animal just like my father did. I'm not ill. Lots of farmers drink their cows' milk and they are not ill either."

Fifteen years may pass before the risk to humans is known

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

WHETHER humans are seriously at risk from BSE is unlikely to be known for another ten to 15 years, a leading expert on brain disease said yesterday.

Helen Grant, a former consultant neuropathologist at Charing Cross Hospital, said: "It is wrong of the government to give the impression that there is no risk at all, when the truth is that we simply do not yet know enough to be certain."

The recently disclosed death of Peter Warhurst from Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD), an incurable brain condition that affects about one in every two million people, has revived fears of a causal link with bovine spongiform encephalopathy, which has killed more than 87,000 cattle.

One of Mr Warhurst's cows died of BSE in 1989 and he is the first known victim of CJD who had also been exposed to possible cross-infection from BSE because of his occupation.

But Dr Grant said she shared the view of the government's scientific advisers that there was most likely no causal link in this case.

"If Mr Warhurst had developed the disease in his twenties or thirties it would have been much more suspicious. It is far more likely that this was a normally occurring case of CJD and had nothing to do with the BSE cow in Mr Warhurst's herd."

Dr Grant is more concerned that many people may have been exposed to the BSE agent between the early eighties, when the disease is first thought to have infected cattle, and November 1989, when bovine brain and offal were banned from human food.

"During that period, bovine brain was still going into such meat products as paté, meat pies, stock cubes and consommé and we know that the infective agent is found in brain tissue. Even now the brains of calves under six months old are still being allowed into the food chain.

"Given the long incubation period for spongiform encephalopathy in humans, it is not impossible that we could start to see an increase in CJD cases from about 2005 because of BSE."

Many scientists accept the theoretical possibility that BSE can pass to humans — the disease has been transmitted in the laboratory to mice, pigs and other animals by direct inoculation — but they doubt that human beings could contract the disease by eating only small amounts of infective material.

They say that BSE will prove no more of a risk to humans than scrapie, an identical spongiform encephalopathy in sheep, which has not led to any measurable increase in CJD in humans despite centuries of eating lamb and mutton from infected animals.

Dr Grant says there is a difference. "We have never eaten sheep's brains because they are too small to be worth the cost of removing. Sheep's brains were ground up with the rest of the carcass remains and included in cattle feed, however." That was how the disease transferred to cows.

CHRIS HARRIS



Back to the sixties: Suzanna Neil, of the auctioneer, in a suit worn by John Lennon

Beatles for sale as museum shuts down

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

THE largest collection of Beatles memorabilia to be offered at auction comes up for sale next month.

The contents of a museum dedicated to the group at the Trocadero centre in Piccadilly, London, will be sold on April 21 because the company that owned it has gone into receivership.

The sale offers well-heeled fans a chance to buy the Steinway upright piano on which John Lennon played *Imagine* (£15,000-£25,000), the black Gretsch guitar he strummed in harmony with Paul McCartney (£50,000) and the collarless jacket he wore on stage in 1964 (£4,000-£6,000).

Relic-hunters can also acquire both of Lennon's marriage certificates, to fellow Liverpudlian Cynthia Powell (£3,000-£4,000) and Yoko Ono (£5,000-£7,000). The latter has the bonus of a doodle by Lennon.

Many estimates are low because the receivers want everything to be sold. The BEA flight bags carried by the Fab Four on their first trip to New York in the early sixties are valued at £300 to £400; a signed postcard from Ringo at £40.

Also for sale will be the dismantled special effects from the museum. Mannequins of John, Paul and George with moving heads are estimated at £2,000 to £3,000. Ringo's model has disappeared.

Models of a group of swinging clients from the Cavern Club, where the group had their first break in their home city, are estimated at between £500 and £600.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bomb hoax man jailed for a year

A man who posed as an IRA terrorist the day that two bombs exploded in Manchester was yesterday jailed for a year. Steven Hindson made two hoax calls on December 3, saying that an explosive device was going to wreak havoc at Hyde Park Corner.

At Southwark Crown Court, Hindson, 21, of Newcastle upon Tyne, admitted two charges of communicating false information with intent. Norman Taylor, a homeless man who helped detectives to identify Hindson, was awarded £100 for his public spiritedness.

In a separate case, Christopher Darcy, 20, of Boscombe, Dorset, who tried to win promotion by planting a hoax bomb at work was ordered to do 100 hours of community service by York Crown Court.

Porn dealer

A former teacher has been fined £2,000 and ordered to pay £510 costs for peddling indecent photographs of boys under 16. Alan Riley, 35, of St Albans, had pleaded guilty at St Albans Crown Court on February 2.

Hearing aid

Maroons are being used to give warning of a lifeboat launch again a year after they were banned. Campaigners said that hearing a maroon go off prompted the public to donate to the Royal National Life-boat Institution.

Street crime

Three men tried to steal hundreds of pounds worth of York Stone paving after cordoning off a street in Lockwood, Huddersfield. They dug up 70ft of pavement but then drove away.

Judge vents anger over attacker, 14

By Ian Murray

A HIGH Court judge complained yesterday that he lacked the power to imprison a 14-year-old sex attacker who has 43 convictions for serious crimes and is awaiting trial for 16 other offences.

After the boy admitted in Durham Crown Court that he helped to drag a 15-year-old girl into a churchyard, indecently molested her and held her down while a 17-year-old raped her, Mr Justice Holland said that he would undoubtedly have been sent to jail if he had been older.

But the maximum penalty for the sexual offence is ten years and children under 15 cannot be imprisoned for any crime which carries a sentence of less than 14 years. The toughest sentence available for the boy, who was 13 when he took part in the attack, is a supervision order with a condition of residence.

The judge decided instead to ask the boy to promise to behave for the next four months while awaiting a sentence, which still cannot be custodial.

During that time he will be at Underley Hall Residential Home in Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria, which is not a secure unit, and will be allowed home for holidays.

His behaviour between now and July, when he is to be sentenced for the sexual offence at Leeds Crown Court, will be monitored by social workers. He is already the subject of two supervision orders and has absconded more than 20 times.

The judge said: "I am conscious a deferred sentence is a barely adequate order."

Clarke tells courts to be tougher

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

A PLEA for the courts to use their extra powers and impose tougher sentences was delivered yesterday by Kenneth Clarke as he sought to deflect mounting criticism of the government's law and order record.

"The public want to see the courts pass sentences that are just and to do this the courts must use the powers that this government has given them," the home secretary told a Tory conference in Weston-super-Mare.

Mr Clarke highlighted three recent Acts as evidence that the government was not afraid to talk about punishment. "I want more emphasis on the fear of deterrents than the fear of crime," he said.

Punishment in the community, a central feature of the last revision of the criminal justice laws, need not be a soft option, he said, appealing to probation officers not to confuse understanding with justification.

Mr Clarke's remarks amounted to an implied criticism of the courts for failing to make use of the new powers at their disposal.

The criminal justice acts of 1988 and 1991 and the Vehicle Theft Act of 1992 had strengthened the law in a variety of areas.

Excessively lenient sentences could be referred to the Court of Appeal, the maximum penalty for causing death by dangerous driving had been raised from two to five years and would be increased to ten, and violent and sex crimes could attract longer sentences.

Credo

Chancellor must exercise power with graciousness

Donald English

A colleague of mine often talks about the importance of "being in the room" where decisions are being made: especially if they concern oneself. We need from the Chancellor of the Exchequer a Budget to show us all that we are included.

There is a difference between getting into power, by a general election, and exercising power, as in a Budget. The election process is bound to put some people "out of the room". They lose. The winners are included: they gain entry.

Once a government is elected, however, its task is to be as inclusive as possible. Getting elected is a matter of power: including everyone has to do with grace. John Major's comments, the day after winning the election, were for me the most encouraging feature of the electoral saga. "I want to be prime minister for all people of Britain," he said. It was a heartening aspiration to graciousness, which is a dominant theme in the Bible story. The created world is itself a result of extravagant generosity. The stories about Jesus Christ are full of the presence of God's grace.

A prominent part of that



witness is the way in which Jesus continually associated with the poorest, neediest and most excluded people of his time. St Paul sums it up in a passage encouraging a particular group of Christians to be more gracious to one another. "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

The determination to include everyone, and the willingness to pay the price to make it possible, run side by side in that spiritual picture. The aim was for all to have the chance to be "in the room".

Such theological convictions have social implications. If elections necessarily exclude, Budgets can include, if they contain that note of graciousness which makes room for everyone. Sadly many groups in our society do not feel themselves to be in the room of life in Britain.

The unemployed feel excluded, both from earning a living and from playing a part in the nation's life. Voluntary agencies feel left out of the room. They are expected to care increasingly for those in need, but receive less finance from local authorities who themselves are being forced to cut back. Less gifted people feel excluded in a context which increasingly rewards those who "get on".

We need to hear more from all sides of the Houses of Parliament about graciousness towards all the people of Britain.

Spiritually, the aim of grace is to gather everyone into the room. Politically, the prime minister intended that on his first day in office and has said so since. The nation rightly expects the Chancellor to demonstrate how that dream is to become a reality through the policies reflected in the Budget.

☐ *The Rev Donald English is a Chairman of the World Methodist Council.*

Girls aged 10 turn to prostitution

By A Staff Reporter

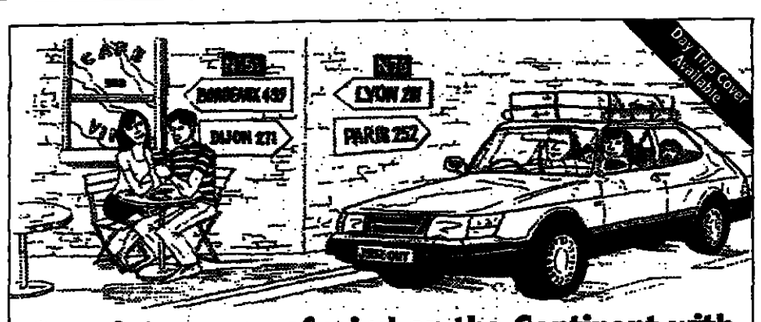
GIRLS as young as ten are soliciting in inner city red light districts, according to charities and social welfare services.

This month two 12-year-olds were arrested and cautioned in the West Midlands. A Children's Society survey shows that the problem is far more widespread, especially among young children who have run away from home or local authority care.

The society interviewed a girl aged 17 who said she had been working the streets of Manchester since she was 13 for money for her heroin habit. "There are girls of 12 and upwards on the streets," she said. "If you're young you're more valuable but they are going to end up dead because the punters take advantage of them. Kids will do it for about £5, they are so desperate."

In Manchester, the society runs a Safe in the City project to provide help, support and friendship for runaways under 17 who are being sucked into a life of sex, drugs and crime.

Peter Blackley, who runs the project, said many of the children are already victims of sexual abuse before they leave home or a hostel. "Their friends may be prostitutes, so they stand and watch. They get drawn in."



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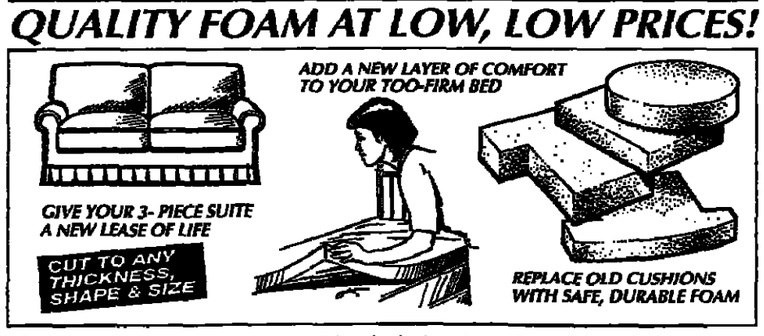
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Islamic terror network suspected in Bombay bombings

■ Extremists appear to be co-ordinating their anger. India has become a target after *Hindu nationalists demolished a mosque*

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

DIPLOMATS were last night checking the possibility of an international Islamic connection in the Bombay bombings similar to that suspected in last month's explosion which ripped through New York's World Trade Centre.

Both attacks were so well co-ordinated that the hand of an outside intelligence service or wider international terrorist links were immediately suspected. Speculation for yesterday's carnage centred on Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India since independence from Britain in 1947. Islamic militants responsible for recent attacks in Egypt and other Arab countries are known to have strong Pakistani links.

The possibility of a co-ordinated Islamic plot, motivated by anger at last December's destruction of the mosque in the northern Indian town of Ayodhya, was increased when Shankarrao Chavan, India's home minister, blamed an "international conspiracy" for the blasts.

Western security experts noted that the war in Afghanistan had left behind what one described as "a virtual band of Islamic mercenaries, highly motivated, militarily hardened and ready to take action almost anywhere in the cause of Islam".

Islamic bitterness against the razing of the mosque in Ayodhya has been likened to similar pan-Islamic anger felt at what is seen as Western reluctance to come to the aid of Muslims suffering under Serb guns in Bosnia. The Egyptian Islamic magazine *al-Noor* described the destruction of the mosque at the time as "a new and terrible aggression against the Muslims and their holy places".

The growing international link between Islamic terrorist organisations was pinpointed this month when the Islamic Group, the main Egyptian militant organisation, faxed a new threat against all foreigners and foreign investments in Egypt from a base in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar. The statement, which called on all Arab and foreign countries to advise their subjects to leave Egypt "in protection of their lives", was treated as genuine by Western sources.

"There is no doubt that the general sense of rage felt in the Islamic world is becoming more co-ordinated," one Arab diplomatic source said. "It is too early to say whether this could have been somehow involved in the Bombay car bombs. But certainly there is a growing feeling that Islamic people should get together to take on outside threats."

Bearded fundamentalists, some equipped with Iranian arms, have turned up in Bosnia and exile members of Egyptian Islamic terrorist groups have, according to senior Egyptian security sources, been based in Pakistan and Afghanistan since 1981.

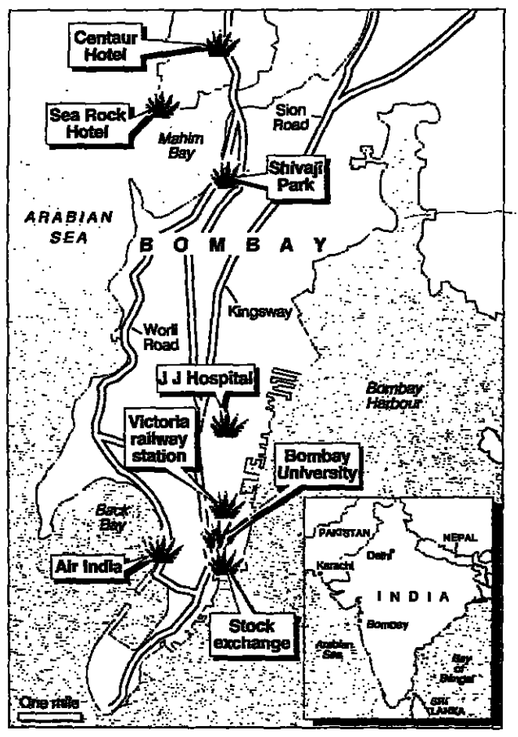
The exiled Egyptian preacher, Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, two of whose followers are being held in connection with the New York blast, has repeatedly argued that enemies of Islam should be attacked wherever they are found. Cassettes of his fiery sermons delivered in America and elsewhere are widely circulated in the Arab world and among Arab militants based in Afghanistan and Pakistan. One tape urged Islamic zealots all over the world to declare a jihad against the enemies of Allah and "hit hard and kill the enemies of God in every spot".

Another focus of Islamic discontent inside India has been Kashmir, where Muslim militants have been fighting for independence or a merger with Pakistan.

Bombay blitz, page 1



Street of destruction: Bombay residents surveying the wreckage after a bomb went off at the stock exchange in the city centre. The blast was one of a number that exploded across the city yesterday, killing 200 people and injuring at least 1,100 more. Speculation centred on Pakistan with whom Islamic militants are known to have strong links



Investors blown off their feet

FROM MAHESHNATH SUNIL IN BOMBAY

BLOOD-stained share forms littered the street as dazed brokers stumbled out of the Bombay stock exchange after a bomb ripped through the building minutes before the bell ending the day's trading.

The blast sparked chaos in the city's central business district as ambulances ferried away the dead and injured and office workers joined rescuers bringing out casualties from the burning 29-storey stock exchange.

Hundreds of investors waiting in line outside the exchange for applications for a new rights issue were swept off their feet by the blast and many were taken to hospitals with cuts and shrapnel injuries, witnesses said.

Many food stalls were flattened by the explosion, which also destroyed the makeshift stalls of brokers. Several people were crushed in a stampede caused by the blast, and street hawkers were hit by glass and debris.

Volunteers, with their faces covered to avoid the acrid smoke, went around urging people to donate blood as others commandeered buses, cars and taxis to remove the injured from the devastated site. *(AFP)*

Muslim fundamentalist threat

Egypt crackdown leads to backlash fear

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

IN AN effort to fight an unpreecedented wave of Islamic terrorism President Mubarak has abandoned caution in exchange for an iron fist and has won the backing of many Egyptians, especially those connected with the devastated tourist industry.

But others fear the hard line which claimed the lives of 16 militants in less than 24 hours will provoke a bloody backlash. "We need to reconsider the belief that extremist thought should only be confronted with arms," said General Fouad Allam, a representative of the interior ministry at a Cairo round-table discussion on the new terrorist wave. "We have to draw lessons from the past.

"These lessons tell us that the police have been confronting the Muslim Brotherhood since 1928 and yet their presence has continued and their influence has become stronger both locally and internationally."

Doubt was also voiced by Louis Garas, the Thomas Cook manager in the normally sleepy resort of Aswan, where police stormed a mosque used by the Islamic group leaving eight dead and at least 40 injured. "The government attack on the militants is not the end of it here," he warned. "It is the beginning of the danger."

Terrorist acts have cut tourist bookings by 50 per cent and are many convinced that an attack on the economic pillars of the regime could topple the government and replace it by an Iranian-style bureaucracy.

"The government must amputate them," said Jamal Mahmoud Layess, an Aswan boatman. "These people want to rule our lives, they want to create an Islamic regime and tell us what to do."

Members of Egypt's Christian minority, which has for years borne the brunt of Islamic violence, complain that the government did little until last October a British nurse was murdered. That threatened tourism, the biggest foreign currency earner.

The accusation that both President Mubarak and President Sadat before him softpedalled over the Muslim Brotherhood (still tolerated but theoretically illegal in Egypt) pinpointed the leaders' false hopes that the Islamic trend could provide a safe counter to revolutionary communism.

President Mubarak has adopted harsh policies involving the arrest of more than 2,000 suspects, a transfer of all terrorist trials to military courts and new laws to prevent Islamic sympathisers keeping control of the professional unions.

Many Islamic militants had shaved beards and donned Western clothing to avoid arrest. "What is happening here is similar to what the Israelis are doing to the Palestinians in the occupied territories," said a veiled woman yesterday near a mosque ringed by armed police in the Cairo slum of Imbaba, scene of a violent gun battle this week.

The continued wave of detentions, trials and executions pledged by the police is likely to have a short-term affect. Many observers believe that, in the longer run, it may fail unless attempts are made to solve Egypt's grinding poverty, appalling housing, excessive red tape and lack of proper democratic institutions.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Police trace blast money from Bonn

New York: The money wired into a National Westminster Bank account of the two men arrested for the World Trade Centre bombing has been traced to Britain and Germany (James Bone writes).

Investigators said yesterday that two separate payments of $5,500 (£3,846) and $2,500 had been made last year into the account of Mohammed Salameh and Nidal Ayyad at the Natwest branch in Jersey City. Mr Salameh withdrew the money a month later. The exact origin of the money has yet to be traced but officials hope that it will lead them to the mastermind of the attack in which five people were killed and about 1,000 hurt.

Cult escape

Waco: A Branch Davidian cult member, Kathy Schroeder, 34, emerged from the compound and surrendered to federal agents. Her four children were freed last week. Her husband was killed in the initial shootout.

United in grief

Wembezi, Natal: In a show of unity against violence, rivals Nelson Mandela, the ANC president, and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader, are today expected to attend the funeral for six children killed at Table Mountain.

Killer bees

Guatemala City: Four schoolchildren died and 20 were injured when a swarm of bees attacked their class nature trip here, television reported. The children fell into a gorge as they tried to escape. *(Reuter)*

Clinton alters ethical menu to save media's banquets

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

A rite of spring in Washington has been saved by President Clinton. Until yesterday it seemed as if three huge annual banquets thrown by the American media for the president and government officials were doomed.

The events had fallen foul of the strict ethics guidelines approved by the Clinton administration in a crackdown on influence pedlars. Under the new rules, federal officials cannot accept more than $20 (£14) a year in food or drink from an individual or $50 from any organisation.

With tickets for the dinners starting at $100, Washington's army of journalists was outraged. Could this mean goodbye to the radio and television correspondents' dinner, the White House correspondents' dinner and the Gridiron Club dinner, where grey-haired newspaper pundits abandon their normal decorum and dress up to perform pantomime skits for the amusement of the president and cabinet? It could have been the end of reporters boasting that they were hosting the Secretary of State or of provincial publishers' tales of dining with the president, without mentioning there were up to 2,000 others present.

All three dinners tend to be long stretches of boredom and mass-produced food interspersed with a witty speech or two. The Gridiron event is supposed to be off the record, a flimsy constraint which can delay the papers from giving a full account by as much as a day. With only slight exaggeration, Andrew Rosenthal, Washington editor of *The New York Times*, said: "These dinners are deadly dull. Someone should take them into an alley and put a bullet in their heads." Alas, Mr Clinton granted clemency. He issued a waiver from the ethics rules for the press dinners.

But not before casualties were suffered. *The Washington Post* withdrew from the White House correspondents' dinner, where last year it paid for $6,000 for six tables. Senior editors said that the perception of reporters seeking a loophole in the ethics laws was unseemly.

Staff who were forced to apologise to invited guests thought the paper's attitude was sanctimonious. One said: "This is investing the dinners with more importance than they deserve. Alcohol has a lot more to do with them than ethics."

The presidential waiver is Mr Clinton's first friendly gesture towards the White House press corps since he took office. They have complained that he has "stiff-armed" them. There have been no full-scale press conferences. Access to the White House press secretary's office has been denied for the first time. Instead of talking to reporters, Mr Clinton goes over their heads with town meetings and even an appearance on MTV, the pop-video television channel.

From Mr Clinton's viewpoint, the policy is working. His message is getting out, unclouded by shouting matches with the press, and his popularity is rising despite his pursuit of tax increases.

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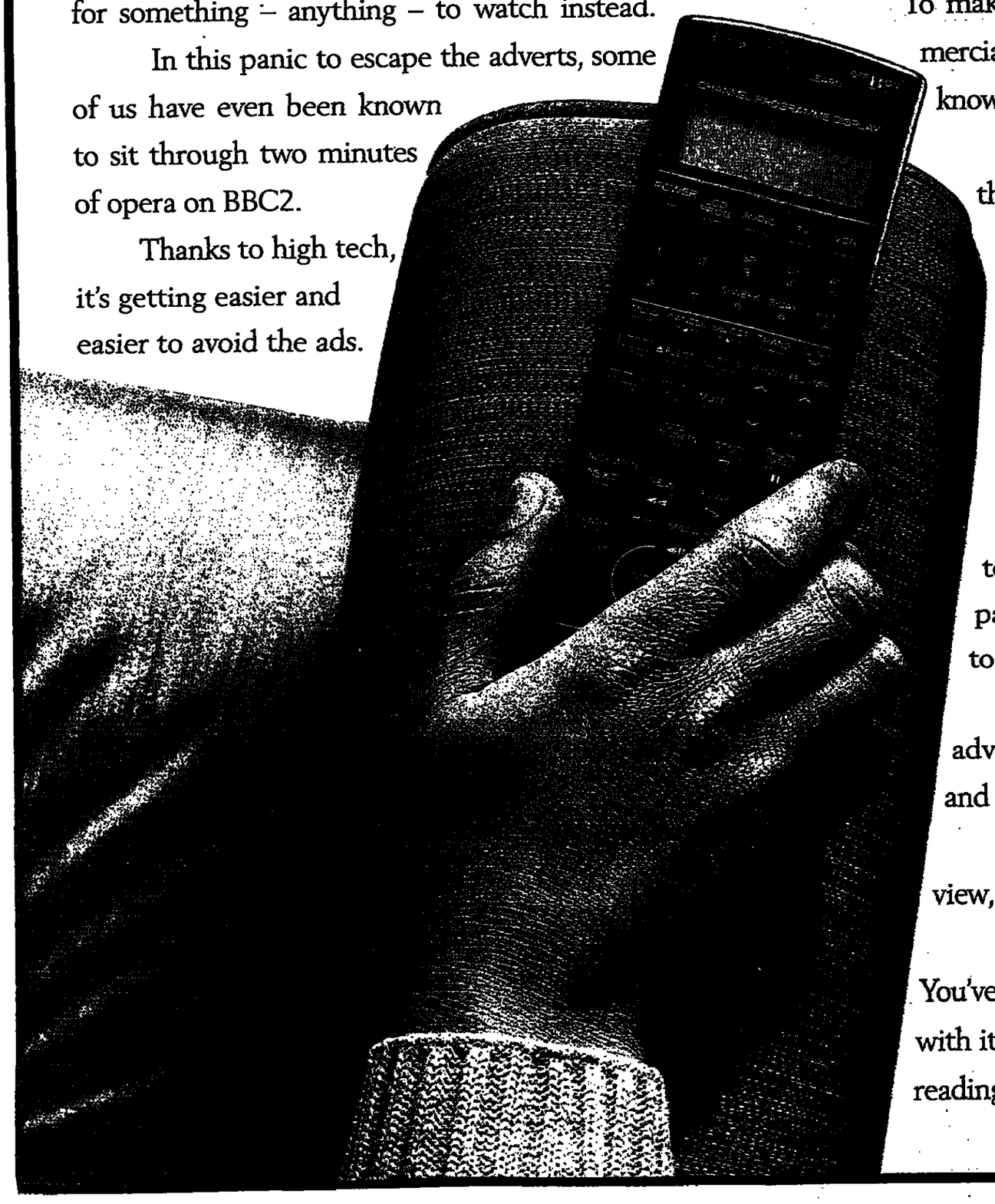
You know how it is. You're just settling in nicely to the big movie on TV when all of a sudden the hero freezes in mid-action. Oh no, it's the adverts again.

Yes, here they come for the n'th time: those unbearably dull folk with their lives ruled by coffee and washing powder and dogfood.

Quick, where's the remote control? Flip channels for something – anything – to watch instead.

In this panic to escape the adverts, some of us have even been known to sit through two minutes of opera on BBC2.

Thanks to high tech, it's getting easier and easier to avoid the ads.



It's called zapping. We'll soon have VCRs which automatically cut out the commercial breaks.

The very latest one records programmes and zaps adverts, and is operated just by talking to it.

All this is bad news for the advertisers who can pay millions of pounds for a few seconds of our attention on TV.

To make matters worse, there are so many commercial TV stations that it's hard for advertisers to know where best to place their adverts nowadays.

If they are serious about talking to us, they really should find a better way.

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Republics hold key to Russian struggle as power moves away from the centre

Yeltsin forced to woo regions in wrangle with congress

■ Russia's regions back the creation of a new federal system. Their decisions, not congress, could settle the country's fate

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

IF PRESIDENT Yeltsin goes ahead with his plan to hold a constitutional referendum next month, the key role in its success or failure will be played by the governments of Russia's regions and autonomous republics.

Choosing to passively resist the referendum, coupled with public apathy, would probably make it a humiliating and even fatal defeat for Mr Yeltsin. If they actively boycott it, then the unity of Russia would be in deadly danger. Without the republics' support, any declaration of a state of emergency by Mr Yeltsin would be fraught with the danger of immediate civil war.

However, if the president can win enough republics to his side, he might be able to outflank the Congress of People's Deputies and break the deadlock.

Akhsarbek Galazov, the North Ossetian leader, told Mr Yeltsin this week that "if the conflict at the centre spreads to the provinces, then without doubt Russia will cease to exist as a unified state".

In 1991, boycotts by several republics of President Gorbachev's referendum on the continuation of the Soviet Union contributed greatly to its disintegration.

Opposition to Mr Yeltsin's referendum by Tatarstan, and several other republics and regions, was restated this week. It was the single main factor in persuading Mr Yeltsin that it was too dangerous to attempt, unless every other solution to the crisis had been tried first. Every other solution has failed, and Mr Yeltsin appears to believe that he has no choice but to take the risk.

As the presidency and parliament wrangle, and the paralysis of central authority worsens, real power has been slipping away from them both towards the regions. One aspect of this has been the formal claims for sovereignty from the autonomous republics.

In the case of Chechenia, the call has been for full independence, and from Tatarstan for quasi-independence. Even the Russian regions with no such pretensions have accumulated more real power. In many cases they are simply refusing to obey central orders or pay many federal taxes.

The view from the republics is that the constitutional struggle in Moscow is basically irrelevant, and the only way out of the deadlock is to remake the whole state system along strictly federal or even confederal lines.

The federation treaty signed a year ago takes a major step in that direction, but there has still been no law from the congress putting the vague provisions of the treaty into effect.

A message from governments of 20 of 21 Russian autonomous republics and regions, read to congress by Mr Galazov, called on congress to pass this law finally, but the most that they were able to agree yesterday was to instruct the Supreme Soviet to form a commission to draw up such a law for some future congress to agree. This is as good as deciding to postpone it indefinitely.

According to Maxim Mukubenov, the prime minister of Kalmykia, "the federation treaty is the only way out of this dead-end. "So far it hasn't happened, because the central institutions, both president and parliament, keep as much power as possible in their own hands, through sheer inertia."

☐ **Moscow:** Miners at Russia's biggest coalfield in Kemerovo, Siberia, yesterday declared their support for Mr Yeltsin's call for a referendum, Russian television reported. *(Reuter)*



Carrying the standard for Lenin: Communist anti-Yeltsin activists, with hammer and sickle Soviet flag, braced against the biting wind in Moscow yesterday outside St Basil's cathedral as they picketed delegates entering the Kremlin for the third day of debate at the emergency session of the Russian Congress of People's Deputies



Parting company: President Yeltsin walking past his rival, Ruslan Khasbulatov, as he left yesterday

Unsolicited advice falls on stony ground

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

If the telegrams on the Congress notice board are to be believed, there is no reason for the present crisis in Russia at all. All that is needed, announce the communiqués which pour in daily from "yours disgruntleds" across the country, is a return to firm ideological principles, some nice new repressive laws and an increase in economic productivity. Easy.

The habit of writing telegrams to the highest legislature has a long and inglorious history. Under the Communist regime, local party chiefs were responsible for organising the required love letters declaring undying faith in socialism and the organs of the state. When things changed, hundreds of elderly Russians discovered that they could not break the habit and still trot faithfully to their post offices from Vladivostok to St Petersburg to make their views known. The deputies, of course, never read them. That too has not changed.

These days, however, the tone of the telegrams is relentlessly hortative. "I appeal to the people's deputies to take the following steps to save Russia's dignity," reads one. "Stop selling our resources abroad. Combat poverty, high prices and unemployment. Do not close factories."

The mothers of Krasnodar were particularly cross about conditions in the army. "We demand that those people be placed before the courts who have failed our soldier-sons by allowing illness and malnutrition to spread in the ranks," they write. "Our blood is boiling. How can our boys defend the motherland under these conditions?" It goes on to add that the supreme legislature would be well advised to investigate the health of the nation. "If we are not healthy, our population will fall and the great Russian people will become extinct." Most of the missives are from communists, but even those supporting the president betray the latent effects of Stalinism on political culture. "I am for President Yeltsin and disgusted by parliament's behaviour," thunders one correspondent. "It is necessary to undertake a thorough purge of the congress to rid it of trouble-making undesirables."

Integral to the rhetoric of a modern congress is that everyone accuses everyone else of behaving like communists. In fact, almost all do, for the simple reason that until recently they almost all were.

The Speaker, Ruslan Khasbulatov, whose methods of chairmanship would make a Leninist blush, decided that the government was "pathological" and "genetically linked with Bolshevism".

The Russian public, to whom this gathering rarely refers, can broadly be divided into a tiny minority with unshakable political beliefs and a vast majority indifferent to the woes of the president and the complexities of congress. The latter would not dream of sending a telegram to the Kremlin, but if they did it would read: "Please stop caterwauling, cut the speeches and get us out of this mess."

Boris Yeltsin's habit of storming out of the hall when the chamber pushes its insults too far leaves them cold. "Do you know that the president has walked out of the sitting today?" I asked a stallholder outside the Kremlin. "Oh good," he said, "that means they'll all go home and the road will be open again."

A taxi driver reached even greater heights of impassivity: he was unaware that congress was meeting at all. "They're just the same parasites as before, and I never took any notice of them then."

Scalfaro plea for morality

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

PRESIDENT Scalfaro appealed to Italians yesterday to draw on their "infinite moral richness" and overcome the corruption scandal decimating the establishment as magistrates rounded up more suspects.

In Milan, a crackdown on corruption in the state-run energy giant, ENI, proceeded with the arrest of Pompeo Locatelli, a lawyer linked to the Socialist party. Judicial sources said Signor Locatelli was charged with violating the law on the financing of political parties and receiving stolen goods.

In Modena, Signor Scalfaro told army cadets: "You should feel part of our people, which has infinite moral richness." Referring to the corruption scandal during a swearing-in ceremony, he said Italy would overcome the affair. "Even if the scalpel has lanced the boils that had to be excised, as long as a people has the capacity to describe evil as evil, it is a people that is living in truth."

The magistrates heading the "clean hands" enquiry have requested that the parliamentary immunity of Bettino Craxi, the former Socialist leader, and Claudio Martelli, the Socialist former justice minister, to be lifted pending fresh charges of fraudulent bankruptcy regarding the collapse of Banco Ambrosiano, headed by Roberto Calvi, who was found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge, London, in 1982.

Magistrates yesterday ordered the confiscation of property belonging to Salvatore "Toto" Riina, the captured Mafia "boss of bosses", worth several billion lire as hundreds of police raided Palermo. Eleven suspected Mafiosi were arrested.

In Florence, authorities said that police had arrested Crocifisso Rinzivillo, a leading "man of honour", after he fled from a roadblock.

Trapped UK troops leave village

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

ELEVEN British soldiers who had been trapped for 24 hours in a village in eastern Bosnia pulled out last night, after Serbian artillery fire was reported to have killed up to 16 civilians and injured many more, including at least six children.

The soldiers, who were not hurt in the shellfire from surrounding hills, had been prevented from leaving the village of Konjevic Polje by a crowd of 3,000 Muslims, mostly women and children, since Thursday night.

However, last night, after sporadic shellfire throughout the afternoon which forced the crowd to disperse, the British soldiers decided to leave. The shells appeared to have been deliberately targeted at the women and children.

Major Alan Abraham, commander of 'B' Squadron 9th/12th Lancers, the most senior officer at the Bosnian village, had said earlier that he and his men were safe and well. A Serbian commander had issued a warning earlier that the shelling would continue until the Muslims let the British go. In the first attack, at least four were killed and six children under the age of five were injured. Two of them lost legs. A British doctor and army medical orderly in the village carried out emergency operations. A British forces spokesman in Bosnia said there were reports of another ten civilians killed in subsequent attacks.

Major Abraham, an officer who has considerable experience in negotiating with local communities in Bosnia, made it clear he felt they were being kept in the village because the people were frightened for their future. "The people see us as their only hope of survival," he said.

A spokesman for the British forces in Bosnia said earlier that Major Abraham faced a dilemma. He said: "If he leaves the people to their fate, the Serbs will open up on the village. If he stays, his prime responsibility has to be for his men and the United Nations civilians in his party."

The British troops went to Konjevic Polje to evacuate 75 wounded civilians. They were held after being warned by local Serb commanders to leave the village before it became dark. But the Muslim villagers ringed the vehicles with burning bales of hay, demanding that they take 75 wounded with them. Danish lorries to transport the wounded remained at a Bosnian Serb checkpoint some distance from the village.

The Muslims later demanded a ceasefire, the stationing of UN monitors in the region and humanitarian aid as a condition for "freeing" the soldiers, it was reported.

In Sarajevo the Bosnian government inched towards accepting the international peace plan for the country drawn up by Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance but said they had several serious reservations.

☐ **Soldier hurt:** A soldier from the Royal Irish Regiment, wounded by an anti-personnel mine in Bosnia, was "very seriously ill" in hospital yesterday. The man, whose name was not released, was under observation in Woolwich military hospital after being flown back to Britain.



Serbs go on trial for atrocities

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

BOSNIA'S first war crimes trial opened in Sarajevo yesterday, with the military prosecutor seeking the death penalty for Borislav Herak, 21, and Sretko Damjanovic, 30, two former Serb soldiers accused of atrocities.

Ljubo Lukic, the prosecutor, said the alleged crimes were part of "ethnic cleansing" by Serbian forces in Muslim villages around Sarajevo. Nada Tomic, Mr Damjanovic's girl friend, who was arrested with the two men, is accused of looting Muslim homes.

The first attempt by the republic's Muslim authorities to bring alleged war criminals to justice may not have the blessing of the United Nations commission on war crimes. In Geneva, a spokesman for the commission, which is collating evidence and working on proposals for a war crimes tribunal to hear cases, refused to comment on the trial.

Mr Herak, from Sarajevo, confessed shortly after his arrest in November. He said he had acted on orders from his superiors. His indictment lists 29 murders committed between June and October 1992. It also covers the deaths of about 220 Muslim civilians, whose killings Mr Herak is alleged to have taken part in or witnessed.

Mr Damjanovic is accused of four murders, two rapes and looting Muslim houses. He has said he was beaten and tortured into confessing to Bosnian authorities.

Yesterday's court session ended with only the charges being read. They included allegations that Mr Herak killed three people from Gornja Bioca by pinning down their arms and legs and then cutting their throats. The prosecutor cited 12 Muslim women Mr Herak allegedly took one at a time from the Chez Sonja restaurant in Vogosca, where they were detained. He allegedly took them to wooded hills where he raped and killed them.

The defence said the charges had inconsistencies, especially concerning dates and sites of the alleged offences. The three defendants were arrested at a Bosnian checkpoint in November when they made a wrong turn while driving through the Serb-held western outskirts of Sarajevo. The trial is expected to last several weeks.

Dwindling Dad's army answers Le Pen's martial call

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN NICE

THE old paratrooper's swagger is still there, along with the sinister rhetoric, as Jean-Marie Le Pen, the bogeyman of French politics, works the stalls on a spring morning in the Liberation market in Nice. "It's the old values we need, a renaissance of France, not a lot of talk about solidarity with victims of drugs and Aids."

The thought goes down well with the elderly shoppers around him and he gets a wave from the blue-rinsed ladies with small dogs on their laps at the nearby café tables, but that could be expected. Nice, where M Le Pen is standing for a seat in the National Assembly, is fertile ground for the founder of the National Front (FN). They like it when he declares: "There is a great risk that the French population will be submerged to become a minority in its own land. This could mean the disappearance of our country."

The old Savoy city which joined France only in 1860 gave the party 30 per cent of its votes in last year's regional elections. M Pen stands a good chance of unseating his conservative opponent. As a national leader from outside Nice politics, M Le Pen is expected to benefit electorally from the insecurity generated by a wave of underworld bombings and the prosecution of a dozen councillors and MPs on corruption charges.

If M Le Pen takes Nice, however, it could be the FN's only seat, because the steam has gone out of the party whose rise seemed inexorable only a couple of years ago. The sparkle and wit that made M Le Pen so menacing has faded as the years have taken their toll. Even the young toughs no longer seem to be turning out. The crowds in Nice, like those at his final rally last night, are heavy with the middle-aged and elderly and as respectable as the figure M Le Pen now tries to cut for himself on the national stage. To avoid the taint of excess associated with the National Front, the Le Pen posters splashed around Nice bear no reference to the party.



Le Pen: gone are the wit and menace

For all the current despair over economic crisis and the failure of traditional politics, the Le Pen song, with its whiff of Pétainist France and the nostalgia for colonial Algeria, has come to sound downright anachronistic.

At the same time, the RPR, the mainstream Gaullist party, has hijacked some of the themes, talking in Le Pen-type code about race and "national identity". Charles Pasqua, the Gaullist who has most openly espoused the Le Pen racial cause, says: "The voters of the National Front have realised that their vote does not really serve any purpose." After coming close to collaboration, the two parties are now at daggers drawn.

Florid and showing his 64 years, M Le Pen has softened. He has been heard exercising his musical Breton voice singing old revolutionary songs in Nice restaurants.

His gift for ugly imagery is still with him, though. His most recent outrage was a remark that he did not find the concept of ethnic cleansing "any more shocking than breast cancer or hailstones".

One of his campaign standards is to say the ethnic cleansing that worries him is the one being carried out by immigrants against French natives in French housing estates.

M Le Pen accepts that nationally the front will not do much better than the 11 per cent predicted in the polls and could lose the only seat it won in 1988, but he takes a philosophical view, certain he will be vindicated by history. "I am a man who thinks on the scale of my great-grandchildren," he says. "For their sake, I do not despair of accomplishing something useful for my country before its decadence becomes irreparable."

He plans to run again for the presidency in 1995 and two of his daughters are standing as candidates in greater Paris in this month's elections.

☐ **Presidential bugs:** An official enquiry confirmed yesterday that French journalists and lawyers had been subjected to telephone-tapping orders by the personal security office of President Mitterrand, but said it had not yet determined who ordered the bugging. *(Reuter)*

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UN chief acts to bring Angola civil war combatants to peace table



Boutros Ghali: opposes military intervention

BY SAM KILEY
AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

■ Caught between withdrawal or military intervention, Dr Boutros Ghali has only the diplomatic option left for him in Angola

FACED with the dwindling credibility of the United Nations' efforts in Angola, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the secretary-general, is planning to intervene personally to bring both sides in the civil war to talks in New York.

His attempt to bring Jonas Savimbi, leader of the rebel Union for the Total Independence of Angola, and Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan president, to America for peace negotiations was being seen as a last-ditch effort to end the civil conflict in Angola, which has cost 15,000 lives this year.

Members of the security council are concerned that the UN faces only two choices in Angola: total withdrawal or military intervention.

America, which along with South Africa backed Unita until 1991, has threatened to take a hard line against the rebels, but is likely only to endorse sanctions rather than favour military intervention.

Earlier this week Margaret Anstee, head of the UN mission to Angola, told a closed session of the security council that the range of options open to the UN ran from mediation to intervention by a force of 15,000 men to prevent the bloodshed.

Given the level of UN military commitments in Cambodia and Bosnia, and the complicated handover of control of Operation Restore Hope in Somalia from America to the UN, Dr Boutros Ghali is unlikely to favour military intervention in Angola.

Diplomats in Luanda said yesterday that sanctions against either side would be difficult to police. Unita has access to the border with Zaire, another African state collapsing into anarchy, while the Angolan government controls access to the seaports through which it would be easy to smuggle weapons.

On Monday, Dr Savimbi offered to enter peace talks with the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola government, but only on condition that he set the agenda for the talks, their venue, and that Miss Anstee be replaced as the UN mediator. The UN rejected the last condition.

Dr Savimbi's demands were seen less as a genuine desire for talks than as a means to buy time while he gathered his forces for a final assault. According to Miss Anstee and other diplomats in Angola, Unita controls 105 out of 120 provinces in the country and has access to about 60,000 soldiers.

Both sides have said in the past that neither could win the Angolan civil war, and the government and Unita have been buying arms with oil or diamond profits to fund their campaigns.

A draft security council resolution, which was expected to be adopted last night, places most of the blame for the renewed civil war on Dr Savimbi. The main criticism levelled at him was his failure to accept defeat in September's general elections and his allegations that they were rigged while the UN and other bodies said they had been both free and fair.

The UN has also come under criticism for the low level of funding for its election and ceasefire monitoring operations in Angola. Many diplomats in the capital, Luanda, and in the UN were anxious to brush a positive gloss on the dawdling demobilisation of both Unita and government troops in the run-up to the elections.

Under a peace accord signed in Portugal in May 1991, the two sides were supposed to disband their armies and integrate into newly formed national armed forces, but neither side fulfilled those obligations.

By polling day last September about a quarter of Unita and 55 per cent of government soldiers had returned to civilian life. "We all should have made more of a fuss then," a Western ambassador in Luanda said yesterday.

Soon after the polls closed and early results showed a government victory Dr Savimbi retreated to Huambo, Angola's second city, from where he began to orchestrate military campaigns against government targets. The government retaliated by levelling Unita offices in the main towns and butchering Unita civilians and soldiers alike.

☐ **Fighting flares:** Fierce battles raged in the central cities of Kuito and Luena in central Angola, the area where the government is attempting to prevent Unita rebels from consolidating their grip and launching attacks on the coast, diplomats reported last night. Should Unita break through to the coast, the diplomats said, the rebels would be able to resupply easily and focus attacks on Luanda.

The rebels occupy about 75 per cent of the country, and the government's control is firmest in a string of cities running down the Atlantic coast: Luanda, Sumbe, Lobito, Benguela and Namibe. The diplomat also said government forces were massing near the rebel-held city of Soyo, in the country's oil-rich north. Unita has issued a warning that foreign oil facilities would be "neutralised" in the case of a government attack in the area. *(AP)*

Shia Muslims sign Afghan peace accord in Mecca

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

MORE of Afghanistan's rival chieftains vowed yesterday to honour the peace accord mediated by Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

Hezb-i-Wahadat, an Iranian-backed coalition of eight small Shia Muslim parties that had not signed the accord in Pakistan, endorsed it in Mecca yesterday. King Fahd of Saudi Arabia and Nawaz Sharif, the Pakistani prime minister, initialled it as "guarantors".

"This accord has been signed in the holiest of Muslim cities and no one can dare break it," Mr Sharif said. If anyone does, "he will be answerable to God".

There had been signs that the peace agreement signed by nine Afghan rebel leaders last weekend at the Islamabad home of Mr Sharif was already coming apart. The ink was barely dry when the first Russian-made Scud missile blew another crater in Kabul, the capital, and further fighting has been reported throughout the week.

Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the rebel leader who has spent 11 months pulverising Kabul, took over as prime minister on Monday, in a development that even by Afghan standards is bizarre. His rockets killed thousands of people and maimed tens of thousands as he attempted to topple the Islamic government he has now decided to join.

Mr Sharif must know that the peace pact has little chance of success. As they were signing it, rebel leaders refused even to look at each other, let alone shake hands. One of them, Sibghutallah Mujadidi, a former president, wrote beneath his name: "With reluctance."

Afterwards, Mr Sharif persuaded the rebels to fly with him to Medina, Saudi Arabia, to pray at the mosque of the prophet Muhammad and pledge to put aside ethnic, religious, territorial and personal claims. As they prayed for the success of the peace accord, bombs were hitting Kabul.

The heaviest attacks on the city this week came from Hezb-i-Wahadat, which turned up towards the end of the bargaining session at Mr Sharif's house but refused, at that point, to sign the peace pact. The group said the Shia minority, perhaps 10 per cent of the population, is being ignored in the debate over Afghanistan's future, as indeed it is.

The accord was notable for what it left out. It failed to give a role to General Abdul Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek strongman whose huge personal army centred on the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif makes him the most powerful man in the country. Nor did it spell out the power division between Mr Hekmatyar, a Pathan, and President Rabbani, a Tajik, who share a longstanding mutual hatred.

They are meant to work together as prime minister and president for the next 18 months, which seems an absurd prospect. It is more likely that they will end up in further full-scale fighting.

The crucial question of who controls the defence ministry remains open. That job now belongs to Ahmed Shah Masood, a Tajik, who runs a large fiefdom in northeast Afghanistan. Mr Hekmatyar wants his own man in the post to get his hands on the government's military resources. That would be tantamount to handing him the keys of Kabul, which is presently controlled by Tajiks and Uzbeks.

Meanwhile, refugees are pouring back into Pakistan, which had hoped to persuade the three million Afghans on its soil to return home. Half the Afghan population of 15 million has been killed, injured or forced to flee abroad in 15 years of fighting. Those who remain are at the mercy of millions of landmines.



Peace strain: jubilant supporters of Ahmad Shah Masood arriving in Kabul after a confrontation with rival Mujahidin forces. Fighting has continued throughout the past week with attacks on the capital despite agreement among Afghanistan's rival factions to honour a truce

Party is over as Cuban faithful swing to the saints

FROM DAVID ADAMS
IN HAVANA

RELIGIOUS fervour is spreading through Cuba's communist ranks, threatening to undermine what little faith the population has in the crumbling structure that has kept President Castro in power since 1959. The return to religion is manifested by a rise in Catholic baptisms and marriages, and in a rediscovery of once outlawed African cults, especially the Santeria religion introduced by slaves in the 16th century.

After decades of state persecution, the religious revival is in large part a product of a worsening economy following the break up of subsidised trade relations with the Soviet bloc. "People look to Afro-Cuban religions because they offer pratical solutions to problems as well as spiritual support," said Natalia Bolivar, a revolutionary disillusioned with state socialism, and now author of *The Orishas of Cuba*, an acclaimed study of Santeria deities.

"Religious belief offers the only hope Cubans have left that life may one day improve — with or without communism," said one diplomat.

On a recent holy day for Santeria believers — the day of Saint Lazarus — tens of thousands thronged the streets near a shrine at a church on the outskirts of Havana. Many walked through the night carrying gifts of flowers, money, animals, even Havana cigars, and a gut-rotting home-made alcohol known as *chispa del tren*, or "spark from the train".

Some sang hymns or chanted verses as they walked towards the church. Enrique Pluma, a 35-year-old polio victim, crawled, dragging 18 large concrete blocks attached to his ankles. "They feel like ping-pong balls," he said pointing at the weights.

Inside the packed church the floor was littered with coins. People lay exhausted against walls, some with dogs sleeping on their laps. Cardinal Roger Etchegaray, senior Vatican envoy, making a rare visit on behalf of the Pope, led the Mass. "Long live the Pope. Long live Christ," shouted the congregation.

State security agents who ringed the inside walls of the church, looked on impassively, scanning the congregation for troublemakers. Earlier, there had been brief cries of "freedom"; the agents were so outnumbered that they made



Castro: opened way for religious tolerance

no effort to intervene. Until recently, religious belief was discouraged by the state which advocated Marxist atheism. Expressions of faith could lead to believers being dismissed from jobs and ostracised by neighbourhood watchdogs, the feared committees for the defence of the revolution. Dr Castro finally began a process to reverse party doctrine in 1991 that promoted religious tolerance. In that October a party congress recommended that religious believers be accepted into the party.

Despite the country's economic woes, Santeria priests, known as *babalaos*, report an increase in Cubans seeking costly initiation rites, bonding themselves to one of the religion's saints. Unofficial calculations have estimated that there are about 4,000 *babalaos*, compared to only 250 Catholic priests.

Saints' days have become popular festivals, attracting more enthusiastic crowds than the sombre annual state-organised political rallies. Santeria worshippers are seen in the streets wearing traditional white robes and beads.

Carlos Viza, a taxi driver, wears a wrist-band of beads, known as the "hand of Orula", the God of Destiny. "It's to show the devil that I'm Orula's son and I'm protected from him," he said.

Señor Viza resigned from the Communist party three years ago after he was told to leave his wife because officials discovered that she was secretly practicing the Santeria faith. "She's a good woman and there's no way I was going to leave her," he said. "I don't believe in Fidel or politics any more. I have my saints. That's my politics."

Pakistani youths to hang

Karachi: A Pakistani special terrorist court has sentenced five teenagers to death for the kidnapping and "gruesome" murder of a six-year-old boy, the semi-official PPI news agency reported yesterday.

The youths, aged from 16 to 19, kidnapped Umair Ahmed in the southern port city of Karachi last July and demanded a ransom of 50,000 rupees (£1,400). They strangled the boy and hid his body in hills near by after his family notified police.

"They deserve deterrent punishment for the gruesome abduction and subsequent murder of the child," said the judge. He awarded two death penalties to each youth and ordered them to be hanged after confirmation by the appeal court. *(Reuter)*

Nazi hunt deal

Buenos Aires: Argentina has signed an agreement granting Jewish investigators full access to state files on Nazis, nearly a year after President Menem lifted all secrecy acts on archives documenting Nazi activities. *(Reuter)*

Pope invited

Beirut: The Lebanese government has invited the Pope to visit Lebanon and bless Christian-Muslim coexistence, Beirut newspapers reported. Cardinal Achille Silvestrini said the Pope would not come before 1995. *(AP)*

Seal cull limited

Oslo: Norwegian sealers will be allowed to kill 19,600 harp and hooded seals during the annual spring hunt, the fisheries ministry said. A ban on hunting seal pups will continue. The quotas are unchanged from 1992. *(AP)*

Japan learns from British eccentrics

BY JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

Searching for similarities between Japan and Britain is a favourite pastime among cosmopolitan Japanese. Both are rain-swept island nations with troubled monarchies and a passion for drinking tea.

There is also a famous dissimilarity they are fond of pointing out. "You are so lucky to have all those splendid eccentrics. Sadly, we cannot compete," they say.

In its endless quest for international recognition and approval, Japan appears to be cultivating a range of *eccentorikku* of its own. Yasunori Sugawara, 47, a pop star who styles himself as Japan's answer to Bob Dylan, has announced his intention to stage his next concert in the Antarctic. From a Chilean research station on King George Island, Sugawara will proceed by boat to the icy wastes, there to fulfil his lifetime dream. Having rigged up a makeshift stage and plugged in his amplifier system, he will kick off the concert with a rendition of his favourite number, *Danny Boy*.

Apart from a few curious penguins, Sugawara is not expecting a crowd. But he nurtures a tentative hope that a few of his diehard fans will spend the 1.6 million yen (£8,500) necessary to attend. "I will be the first ever to perform in the South Pole. My concert will symbolise a new era of peace, a borderless world where 'heartful' songs can spread happiness and warmth," he said.

Another paragon of Japan's new school of eccentricity is Yoshikazu Suzuki, 57, a piano tuner from Tokyo. In November Mr Suzuki invited his friends to watch a trial levitation in his home-made flying machine, a precarious contraption of a basket slung beneath a large bunch of helium balloons.

Equipped with a few rice cakes, a portable telephone and a roll of tape, Mr Suzuki strapped himself into the basket and took off. Thirty feet in the air, with his anchor rope taut, he leaned out of the basket, cut the rope and soared into the sky. "I'm off to San Francisco," he yelled, waving wildly.

Two days later, shortly after he put through a call to his wife to tell her how beautiful the sunrise had been, he was spotted, short of a balloon or two, by a maritime safety agency search plane. Mr Suzuki has never been seen since. "His dream was to reach America in 40 hours by riding on the jet stream," his family said.

Another aspect Britain and Japan have in common is a royal family. Royal watchers here were intrigued yesterday with the announcement that Masako Owada, Crown Prince Naruhito's fiancée, has been given a 50-hour study programme by the Imperial Household Agency to complete before her wedding. Miss Owada, 29, a graduate of Harvard and Oxford, will study court etiquette, imperial family history and the constitution.

Torahiko Nagazumi, 91, a classmate of the late Emperor Hirohito, gave Miss Owada her first lecture on ancient rice harvest rituals, news reports said. Miss Owada is already a good linguist, speaking English, German and French fluently, so she is exempted from some of the traditional court studies. She will be the most internationalised empress in Japan's history and only the second commoner. Her future mother-in-law, Empress Michiko, is the daughter of a wealthy industrialist.

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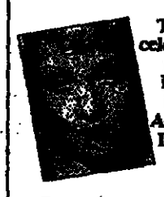
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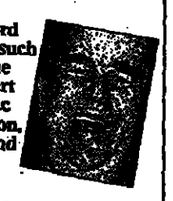
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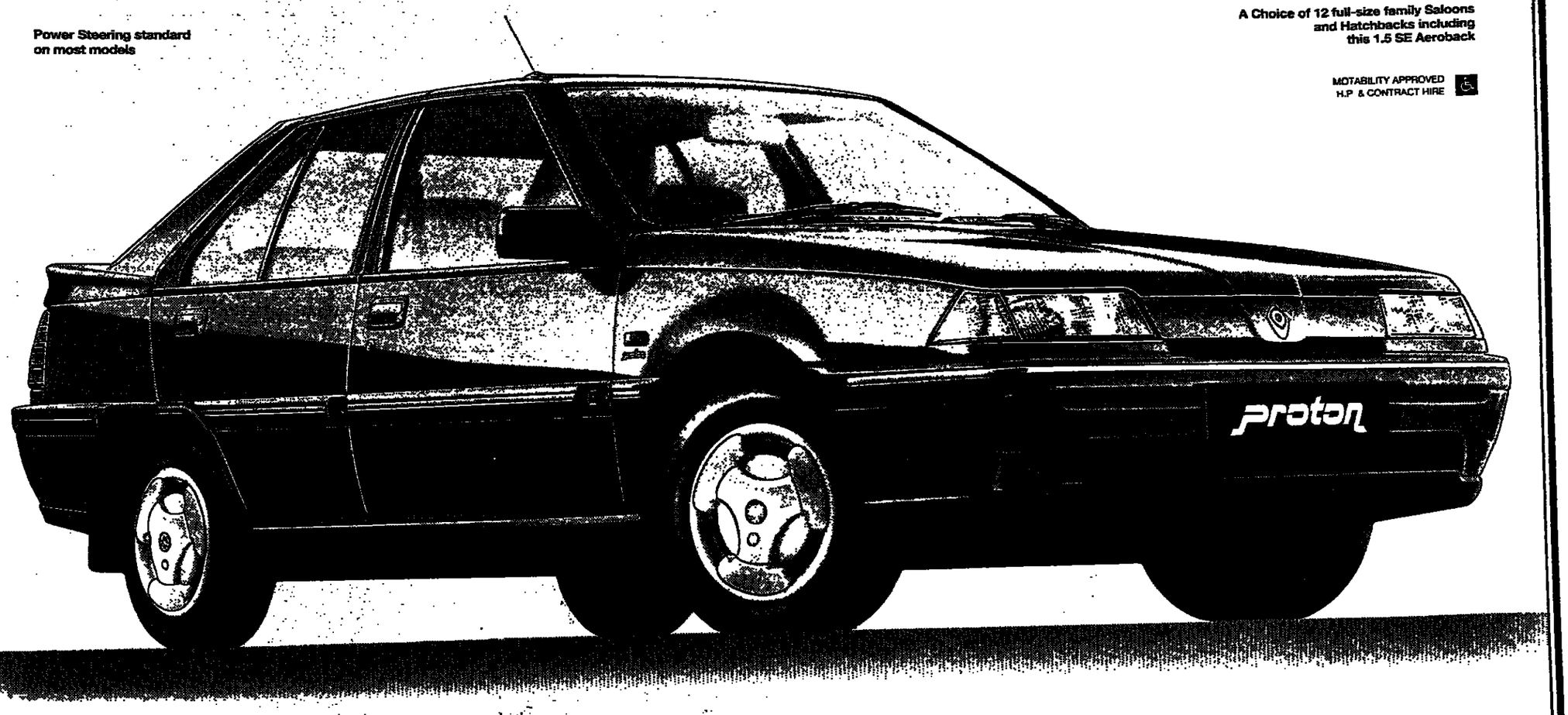
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Hong Kong shares fall as Patten defies Peking on reforms

By James Pringle in Hong Kong and Eve-Ann Prentice

CHRIS Patten, the Hong Kong governor, ending weeks of brinkmanship with a hostile Chinese side, yesterday increased pressure on Peking by publishing his long-delayed democratic reform bill after eleventh-hour diplomacy had failed to produce a Chinese promise to negotiate. The Chinese responded that talks were now out of the question.

Laying the blame squarely on China, Mr Patten told a tense and expectant Legislative Council: "Despite our hopes and our best endeavours right up until this afternoon, it has so far not proved possible to resolve the differences between the British and Chinese that stand in the way of talks getting under way."

Publication of the bill, which extends the franchise to 2.7 million Hong Kong workers, has been delayed four times during the past five weeks, causing the leading pro-democracy member of the assembly, Martin Lee, to accuse the governor this week of being "led by the nose" by the Chinese.

Mr Patten said he left the way open for China. He told the assembly: "We haven't even got a date when I will be able to give you a date for talks. And we haven't got agreement Hong Kong government officials should be part of the British team, as they have been for the last ten years."

The governor's announcement to the nervous colony prompted share prices to go into a tailspin and the Hang Seng index tumbled 201 points to end at 6,170 points, a 3.1 per cent drop, its biggest in four months.

The announcement angered Chinese officials in Hong Kong. Zhen Guoxiong, a deputy director of the New China News Agency there, said: "This means there is no way to continue talks, and it is all caused by Mr Patten."

In London, the government supported Mr Patten. "We remain ready for talks with the Chinese side at any time without preconditions," a spokesman said.

Privately, British officials feel that China's apparent desire to humiliate Hong Kong reflects a dispute between hardliners and moderates in the leadership.

Robert Adley, the Tory chairman of the British-Chinese parliamentary group, was unhappy with the development. He said: "What Chris Patten is doing is creating uncertainty and gambling with Hong Kong's future stability."

But Mr Patten was largely supported by other MPs, including the Liberal Democrats. "I believe we are in for a very, very turbulent time," Paddy Ashdown told the BBC. "But I think Chris Patten has taken a series of moves which are supported within Hong Kong, and should be supported in Britain."



Pressing ahead: Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, with John Swaine, the president of the Legislative Council looking on, telling members about his reform plans after eleventh-hour Sino-British diplomacy failed

Koreans renege on nuclear treaty

By David Watts

NORTH Korea withdrew from the International Atomic Energy Agency yesterday in response to pressure to open its nuclear facilities to international inspection.

Pyongyang's unprecedented cancellation of its membership of the watchdog body will fuel speculation that it is close to perfecting a nuclear weapon. James Woolsey, head of the CIA, said last month that there was a "real possibility" that North Korea had enough nuclear material for at least one weapon and was hiding this from the agency.

Governments in the region reacted with shock to the announcement and comparisons were made with another isolated nation with nuclear potential — Iraq.

South Korea called an emergency meeting of key cabinet officials to discuss its response and Michio Watanabe, the Japanese foreign minister, gave a warning that the decision was "a challenge to the nuclear non-proliferation regime itself and will have grave repercussions".

There was no immediate reaction from China, one of North Korea's few close allies, which only last week joined the chorus for Pyongyang to yield to international pressure. Peking's official news agency carried a report without comment.

In February, North Korea blocked the atomic agency from inspecting two suspected nuclear sites. The agency gave the country until the end of March to reconsider or face repercussions, including action by the United Nations Security Council.

"South Korea should prepare for the worst scenario to develop on the Korean peninsula," said Lee So Hang, a researcher at South Korea's state-run Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security.

It is unprecedented for any signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to scrap its membership, according to atomic agency sources. "It is a grave step for North Korea to take ... The international community will have to look at the implications of what has been announced."

Pyongyang is now expected to inform America, Russia or Britain of its intentions.

☐ **Seoul:** South Korea's main opposition Democratic party picked a new leader yesterday to succeed Kim Dae Jung.

Lee Ki Taek, 55, acting leader since Mr Kim left politics after his third bid to win the presidency failed, won more than half of the vote. *(Reuter)*

Chinese hardliner dies at 85

From Reuter in Peking

WANG Zhen, a veteran Marxist hardliner, died yesterday aged 85. He was a vehement and unrelenting critic of China's intellectuals and a virulent opponent of Western values.

Wang, who joined the Communist Party at 19, was born into a peasant family and rose through the military to become vice-president, in a career that epitomises traditional Chinese revolutionary values.

To the younger generation he battled, Wang symbolised the evils of a system run by octogenarians out of touch with the needs and desires of the common people.

Wang played a major role behind the scenes in purging two of China's most reform-minded leaders. Hu Yaobang lost his job as Communist Party general secretary in 1987 and Zhao Ziyang was thrown out of the same job in 1989, after the army crushed student-led pro-democracy demonstrations.

Long dogged by kidney problems, in recent years he was often reported to be in hospital and was rarely seen.

Scare campaign brings Labor level

From Robert Cockburn in Sydney

AUSTRALIANS vote today in an election that could bring about changes as profound, and socially disruptive, as Margaret Thatcher's revolution in Britain.

On the final day of campaigning yesterday, a row exploded over opposition *plans to bring criminal* charges against workers who breach contracts, which John Hewson, the Liberal leader, is refusing to make public until after the election. Paul Keating, the prime minister, said a Liberal win would see the egalitarian Australian way of life vanish for ever and a new underclass created.

Already there is a climate of fear in public institutions such as the state-owned ABC television. Even before the election, the threat of an A$50 million (£24.4 billion) budget cut has resulted in senior ABC staff changes to appease a Liberal government.

Labor, having trailed the opposition for much of the campaign, has had a late surge of support, according to two opinion polls to be published today. The News Poll and Morgan Gallup polls indicate a cliffhanger, which might not be resolved for several days as preferences are calculated in the complex electoral system. The Morgan Gallup poll shows the Liberals at 45 per cent, Labor at 44.5 per cent, but with a Labor victory achievable on preferences.

Australia's 11.3 million voters have never appeared so undecided. At a time of record unemployment, above one million, the choice is between a fifth term for Labor after ten years in office, or taking a chance on the opposition's radical tax and industrial relations reforms.

Mr Keating said yesterday that the election was a referendum of the opposition's proposed 15 per cent consumer tax and the Australian way of life. Other nations, he said, had been "ambushed" with a consumer tax.

Mr Keating gave assurances that after five successive quarters of growth at 2.5 per cent, economic recovery had begun but the creation of new jobs, his greatest election liability, would take longer. He said: "Tomorrow Australians can vote for GST [consumer tax] or they can vote for jobs. They can't have both. My job as prime minister was to get the economy growing and I've done that."



Should Dr Hewson be victorious, a radical restructuring of public institutions and society will take place. Public spending will be slashed by A$10 billion over three years, threatening health care and social services. The powers of the central bank would be changed, along with federal and state tax-raising procedures. The rules of parliament are expected to be reformed with key changes in the public service.

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Alexander Chancellor in New York



■ With the approach of spring, the kooks and crazies seem to be having a field day

There is spring in the air, and Garrison Keillor has celebrated the fact with a cheerful article in *The New York Times*. "These are good times to be alive in America," he wrote; and, counting the nation's blessings, he gave pride of place to a decision in Florida last week to make it legal to breast-feed a baby in public. "The naked breast had been forbidden in Florida, but not now, so long as there is a baby attached to it," he explained.

The measure, which has been passed by both Houses of the Florida legislature, is believed to be the first in any state guaranteeing women the right to breast-feed their children in public ("whether or not the nipple of the mother's breast is covered during, or incidental to, the breast-feeding"). It took the form of a bill amending Florida's strict statutes on indecent exposure, lewd and lascivious behaviour, and obscenity, so as to exempt nursing mothers from harassment or arrest: and it was sponsored in the Senate by a Republican, Miguel de Grandy, who said, in explanation of the apparent paradox that he, a conservative, should be seeking to relax the morality laws, that "this is a family values issue if there ever was one".

> Abortion doctors are now buying hand-guns

In the Florida House of Representatives, some conservatives had expressed fears that the bill might enable women to appear topless with impunity on beaches and in dance clubs, while a Democratic representative, Elaine Bloom, had objected to it on the different grounds that "breast-feeding has never had anything to do with lewd and lascivious conduct, so it does not need to be expressly excluded". The bill was nevertheless passed overwhelmingly by both Houses, to a national chorus of approval by liberals and traditionalists alike.

Such a consensus on an issue of morality is indeed a rare and a wonderful thing, fully justifying Mr Keillor's enthusiasm. But there is no other evidence to suggest that spring is bringing tolerance in its wake. On Wednesday, one week after the passing of the breast-feeding bill, a man taking part in an anti-abortion demonstration shot and killed an abortion doctor outside his clinic. This, too, happened in Florida, in the naval port of Pensacola, and it was the twenty-seventh act of violence by anti-abortionists in the United States this year. Such acts, ranging from arson to bodily assault, have more than tripled in number in two years, and they totalled 186 in 1992. The murderer, Michael Griffin, who gave himself up to the police immediately after firing several bullets into the back of Dr David Gunn, was loosely affiliated to a Houston-based anti-abortion group named Rescue America which, while ostensibly dissociating itself from his crime, said through its national director, Don Treshman: "While Gunn's death is unfortunate, it is also true that quite a number of babies' lives will be saved." A member of the American Family Association, another anti-abortion group, said Dr Gunn "should be glad he was not killed the same way he has killed other people, which is limb by limb". Abortion doctors are now buying hand-guns and bullet-proof vests to prepare for what they fear will be a wave of terrorism.

Outside Islam, America is possibly the world's most God-fearing nation: and, as in some Islamic countries, which breed religious fanatics so demented that they will even try to blow up the World Trade Centre, religion in America, at least in its fundamentalist manifestations, takes many weird and terrifying forms. And, with the approach of spring, the kooks seem to be having a field day.

As I write, David Koresh and more than one hundred mindlessly devoted members of his Branch Davidian cult are still holding out, Custer-like, in their compound at Waco, Texas, two weeks after their deadly gun battle with federal agents, while police negotiators, advised by a team of religious experts, conduct desperate telephone conversations with him about the meaning of the Book of Revelations. The religious experts fear that Mr Koresh, who thinks he is the Messiah, may have decided to stick it out until Good Friday, and then, like the Reverend Jim Jones before him, seek martyrdom for himself and his followers. Meanwhile, in Jefferson, Georgia, another man with a devoted following, a hell-fire television preacher named R.L. Jordan, has been charged with the St Valentine's Day murder of a married woman rumoured to have been his mistress.

New York, by comparison, seems peaceful in the sunshine, but that peace could be broken at next Wednesday's St Patrick's Day parade from which a contingent of Irish gays and lesbians have been officially excluded. The gays intend to march all the same, in defiance of the ban, and against a background of new statistics revealing a 12 per cent rise last year in anti-gay hate crimes. If St Patrick's Day turns nasty, I may feel compelled to repair to Florida and seek solace in the idyllic springtime spectacle of thousands of mothers feeding their babies in public.

The author edits the New Yorker's *"Talk of the Town".*

Matthew Parris proposes some radical free-market measures to increase backbench efficiency

How to make your MP more cost-effective

Cocaine, of course, is something no cabinet minister would touch: but, nostrils flared and adrenalin pumping, something about the new, hyper-hyper Virginia Bottomley, tell us that, flying too high with some Hurd in the sky, she gets a kick out of being health secretary.

She just loves it. She so obviously *believes* it all. Tearing from interview to interview, she must tell the nation about the wonders of NHS opt-out hospitals, the thrill of the internal market, the miracles that GP fundholding can deliver. Waiting lists down! Hip replacements up! Thousands of octogenarian spinsters bundled into vans for compulsory breast scans and cervical smears as health districts vie for top position in the health charts!

And then there's education secretary John Patten. Banging the dispatch box, steely-eyed, gritty-voiced and super-confident, he pours scorn on all who doubt his brave vision of schools' opt-out, teachers' performance indicators, examination league tables, and snap-testing for teenagers, under-12s, rising fives and toddlers. Fie on any neanderthal who doubts the benefits that competition can bring! Rigorous testing, fearless publication of every result... feathers fly as the new world of market simulation hits the old world of the welfare state.

As William Waldegrave, public service minister, stalks the corridors of Whitehall with his citizens' charters, internal audits and free-standing agencies, while environment minister Michael Howard pushes forward the frontiers of competitive tendering and town hall league tables, the electorate can only marvel. The impression is of a gang of Tory ministers storming a fusty and mildewed mansion, tearing down curtains, throwing open cupboards, sweeping cobwebs away and letting in the light.

Except that there's one room, just one room, in this mansion that they never touch. Its doors are bolted, its files locked and its blinds down. There's just one profession MPs have forgotten to reform. Their own.

Why shouldn't the principles of free competition apply to MPs' work too? Is there any good reason why the citizen should not see the performance of his or her MP published and compared with others? Is there, uniquely, no scope at all for looking at an MPs' work and asking which parts of it might usefully be put out to tender? Is it right that MPs enjoy a professional monopoly in their own constituencies. Very similar questions are being put by Tory ministers to every public-service worker outside the hallowed stonework of the Palace of Westminster. But why don't they turn their gaze within? We should, as Mrs Thatcher used to say while she rolled back the frontiers of the state, "think the unthinkable".

Here, then, are some initial thoughts for fostering the internal market at Westminster.

1) Parliamentary constituencies should be invited to opt out of their present dependence on a single channel of communication with the legislature. They should set themselves up as "fundholding" constituencies. Ballots of electors could be arranged to authorise this.

2) MPs will register as "agencies". Their performance will be audited on separate counts: constituency work, fête opening, speech-making, sound bite output, productivity at Questions, etc. Performance will be assessed by independent inspectors. There will be exams on constitutional knowledge and Commons procedure. Results will be published.

3) Armed with this information, fundholding constituencies will no longer be obliged to accept representation from their MP alone. They will be able to "buy in" services from any MP. Bolsover, for example, might prefer to carry on buying its rhetoric from Dennis Skinner, but switch its purchase of minister-lobbying services to Frank Field.

4) The old tradition whereby one MP does not interfere in the constituency of another will be abolished. MPs will actively seek to intervene, out-perform and supplant each other anywhere in the country. They will advertise their services and results.

5) The quaintly-named "Serjeant-at-Arms department" will have to bid for its franchise running the building at Westminster. The work now done by badged messengers and the special Commons policemen will be taken over by Securicor.

Of course there will be objections. League tables have been unpopular with many professionals on the grounds that, taken out of social context, they can be misleading. So there will be those who complain that it is unfair to compare the performance of backbencher Harry Greenway (C, Ealing N) with that of the foreign secretary, because Douglas Hurd was at Eton, whereas Harry was only the headmaster of a comprehensive in a socially deprived area. Ministers will brush such whingeing aside — surely? After all, they have brushed it aside from everyone else.

These are just ideas. Treat this as a green paper. How about *Bidding For Your Vote? Oh — and one more* reform: electors will no longer be referred to as "constituents". They will become customers.

Magdalen's masterpiece

A triumphant marriage of art and music was unveiled in Oxford last week



Better than the original: Judas, St Peter and St John in a detail from the Royal Academy's *Last Supper*

To Oxford to see a picture being hung. Not any picture, but the formal unveiling on Wednesday of one of Britain's treasures, the copy of Leonardo's *The Last Supper*. The copy was made by assistants at the same time as the original fresco in Milan. It has long been in store at the Royal Academy for want of a suitable wall on which to show it. The picture has now been gingerly moved from the Academy up the M40 to Magdalen College chapel. The resulting alliance of art and architecture is remarkable. The nuptials merited celebration — and celebration they received. All the arts were mustered to the glory of Leonardo. (Never again will I hang a picture by merely banging a nail in a wall.)

Great architecture imposes its own character on an occasion: and none is greater than that of Magdalen. The evening began with the painting lit high on the wall of the ante-chapel, positioned to emphasise the strong perspective and foreshortening of Leonardo's original fresco. Some 400 visitors gazed up in awe. The art historian, Sir Ernst Gombrich, then intoned a magisterial lecture on the work and the artist. His thick Viennese phraseology was lost amid the Gothic vaults, yet managed to infuse the occasion with intellectual beatitude.

There followed tea in the hall and then a candlelit evensong, a service rich in copes, bishops and incense. Thirty choristers sung an anthem in honour of the painting composed by the college's music fellow, Grayston Ives. Guests then clambered over the roofs of cloisters, steeped in dark Gothic shadows, to a banquet at which we heard tell of the picture's life since Leonardo. We duly drank its health. The evening ended with a last glimpse at the masterpiece, unsleeping, radiant on its chapel wall.

This marriage of Leonardo and Magdalen is delightful serendipity. A college fellow, Colin Blakemore, had overheard Piers Rodgers, the RA secretary, bewailing the latter's lack of a "good wall" on which to hang his copy. Mr Blakemore and the college president, Anthony Smith, knew that they had just such a wall. Delicate negotiations ensued and eventually secured the picture on long-term loan. American friends paid for its rehanging. Olivetti paid for its restoration in Milan, by the same team as had restored the original fresco.

Mr Smith rightly regarded his acquisition as meriting more than just a nail in the wall. Sir Ernst's epic discourse of almost an hour was beguiling even where inaudible. Like the damaged fresco itself, it yielded fragments testifying to the orator's majesty. *The Last Supper* was simply "one of the great miracles wrought by human genius". Here, said Sir Ernst, was Leonardo "in contest with Giotto in interpreting Alberti". Here was Leonardo straining to represent "both man and the intentions of man". Here was Leonardo struggling to express bodily movement round the formal setting of a Renaissance dining room. Here was the impetuous Leonardo abandoning the austere technique of fresco and applying oil-based pigment to the wall surface — and condemning the work to swift deterioration.

Sir Ernst quoted Lord Clark, "appalled at the quantity of writing which this masterpiece has evoked... We regard it more as a work of nature than a work of man." To every child, this last supper is *the* Last Supper, the authentic portrayal of the moment when Christ told the shocked disciples that one of them would betray him. To Lord Clark, such was this familiarity that "we no more think of questioning its shape than we should question the shape of the British Isles." I have not seen the damaged Milan fresco, but I sense from reproductions that this copy displays a detail and a vitality sadly lost from the original. Whether Leonardo himself supervised the copy, whether he executed some of it himself, is not known. We only know that it was painted to hang in the Charterhouse at Pavia — and that he is clearly its inspiration.

What is so galvanising, high on the chapel wall, is the ability of the copyist to convey Leonardo's realism. Sir Ernst found the disciples so lifelike as to permit himself one modest joke, that today they would be called "virtual reality". The foreshortening of the disciples, when lit from above, makes them move about the canvas, as if bursting to kick over the table in their anguish. As for their exaggerated gestures, Sir Ernst points out, this was plainly an Italian supper. The picture is unframed and might almost be a *trompe-l'oeil*: a window in the chapel wall giving us a glimpse of a college supper, with the gardens of north Oxford visible through windows in the distance.

Music's contribution to the occasion, the anthem, was wholly appropriate. Enhanced by a hundred flickering candles, it evoked both the picture's drama and its accessibility: rare qualities in modern composition. The trebles uttered Christ's accusation of betrayal. The tenors and basses echoed the frightened responses: "Lord, is it I?" Round them gathered the timeless candlelit faces of clerics, scholars, students, passers-by, all discovering in this artistic renewal "a place of refreshment and peace in our earthly pilgrimage".

I wondered, was it not incongruous: a Renaissance painting hung in a Gothic chapel, blessed by a Teutonic lecturer and a high Anglican ritual? But this was a true renaissance synthesis. It is now 500 years since Leonardo planned *The Last Supper*: he first climbed the scaffolding in the Santa Maria delle Grazie in 1494. That same year William Orchard, master mason of late Gothic, would have climbed the scaffolding round the apotheosis of Perpendicular, Magdalen Tower, then rising over the roof of cloisters.

Ruskinians have long set the masterpieces of late Gothic art over and against those of the Italian Renaissance. Here the two sides can find reconciliation. Leonardo completed his fresco in 1498, the same year as Magdalen welcomed to its number the other genius of the Renaissance, Erasmus. Tudor Oxford was no academic *ultima Thule*: the "smile of reason" beamed down on it too. (For that matter, Leonardo's heads of St Peter and Judas might have been borrowed from the gargoyles of Orchard's Magdalen.)

Here on Wednesday in much-maligned Oxford was a sudden harmony, of art and architecture, of Gothic and Renaissance, of learning and music. There must be a hundred such marriages waiting in the wings, waiting at least in the galleries and vaults of arts institutions. Are there no other walls of equivalent majesty? Here is a challenge fit for the imaginative Nineties.

Simon Jenkins

Short lease of life

NORMA MAJOR has made it abundantly clear that she has had nothing to do with *Norma: A Biography*, Tim Walker's distinctly unofficial version of her life due to be published next month. But she does appear to share one important concern with the publisher: that John Major may not be long in No 10.

The book was to have been launched at the Tory conference in October, but plummeting opinion polls, any number of policy U-turns and faltering performances at the dispatch box have unsettled the publisher, Fourth Estate. Towards the end of last year, it decided Major's position had become so precarious that publication should be speeded up.

Walker says: "I had to get the copy to them by February, which was far earlier than was planned initially."

In what must aspire to being a controversial work, Walker writes that Norma has had difficulty with the glamour of high office. Her reaction to his leadership contest victory was one of shock, he says: "Not shock as in surprise, but clinical shock, the sort people get after hearing of the death of a close relative or being involved in an accident".

Gone was the comfortable home life she had envisaged with the man for whom, she admits, it was love at first sight. His position on Lambeth council had impressed her immeasurably on their initial encounter, as had his appearance "sporting side boards and wearing a brown suit and his NHS glasses".

But Norma may already have had enough of her position as first lady. "What makes the prospect of it bearable is that it isn't going to go on for ever — and once it's over life will start getting back to normal again," she is quoted as saying. At the present rate normal life may be resumed even sooner than she thinks.

● *Eastern European aspirations to EC membership were thrown somewhat this week by a Bulgarian production of Aida in Brussels, which managed to lose its scenery, costumes and sound equipment — just as the cast and orchestra were thrown out of a hotel for not paying the bill. High-spot of the makeshift production was a Pharoah, readily identifiable by the waste-paper basket on his head.*

DIARY

What's the spirit?

IT'S not just whether or not to raise taxes in Tuesday's Budget that is worrying Norman Lamont this weekend. The Chancellor is also trying to resolve the traditional problem of what to sip while he makes his speech.

Last year, under pressure to deliver a vote-winning Budget ahead of the general election, Lamont was fortified by a tumbler of Highland Park whisky, distilled in the Orkney islands, close to his native Shetlands.

But this year, facing an even greater fiscal challenge, he cannot decide whether to drink alcohol or not. In the wake of the Scotch whisky industry's ferocious lobbying, a Chancellor seen swigging their tipple, in full view of the television cameras, might be thought to have given the industry undue consideration.

But then drinking any other brew, after the sort of year Lamont has had, is simply tempting fate.

"It is one of the great Budget secrets," says one of Lamont's aides. "You will have to wait until Tuesday. But I can tell you he will not be drinking Bricout champagne."



● *While Lamont wrestles with his drinks dilemma, the rest of us just have to worry about the contents of his speech. One strong favourite is the levying of VAT on domestic fuel bills. But how much would this raise for the Treasury? In a parliamentary answer on February 22, the Treasury said £1.8 billion. Three days later, in response to a second question, it had risen to £2.6 billion. By Tuesday, who knows? Certainly not the Treasury.*

Suits me

WITH John Birt's position as director-general of the BBC becoming more difficult by the hour, speculation at Broadcasting House centres on the benefits that his belated decision to join the corporation's staff might yet bring to their Armani-clad leader. Could he, for example, end his present embarrassment by applying for voluntary redundancy?

The BBC's standard redundancy terms suggest that Birt might pick up four months' salary, or £50,000, if the BBC would agree to his departing forthwith.

But BBC insiders believe Birt must have agreed a fixed-term service contract when he joined the staff, which by industry standards might be anything from two to five years. "If his solicitors have any sense, they will have made sure he is paid for the full term if the BBC decides he should break the contract," said one. For a week's work, that's an awful lot of suits.

● *Channel 4's chief executive Michael Grade — who, like Birt, is on PAYE — celebrated his 50th birthday this week. His office gave him a huge card featuring a photograph of a muscle-bound "Chippendale" stripper with Grade's head superimposed. Grade was said to be "thrilled to receive it. He is going to take it home and frame it. It was not particularly tasteful, but he enjoyed it." Rather like Channel 4 on a Sunday night then?*

At last Miss Marple is on the case



Joan Hickson and David Suchet: vice-presidents

SOME 27 years after her death, the first official worldwide Agatha Christie Society has been established with the blessing of the writer's family. Similar attempts have been made to form societies in the past but have not met with the approval of the family or Agatha Christie Ltd.

The society's aim is to promote communication between the many and loyal fans of the prolific mistress of the whodunnit. Rosalind Hicks, Christie's daughter, has agreed to be president, while the two actors who have played her best-known characters with such success — Joan Hickson, the BBC's Miss Marple, and David Suchet, LWT's Hercule Poirot — have agreed to be vice-presidents. Chairman Matthew Prichard, a grandson, says: "We plan it as a continuous celebration of the work of one of the century's most popular authors."

MR BIRT AND MR HURD

The BBC is the first casualty of its director-general's folly

John Birt's survival as director-general of the BBC is now before the bar of public opinion. A potent case against him has been canvassed this week: that, while he was occupying the two most powerful executive posts in public service broadcasting, Mr Birt was paid as a freelance contributor so as to avoid tax; that despite claims in a letter to *The Times* that the tax benefits of this arrangement were small, he paid his artist wife both as a director of his company and as his secretary.

A case in favour has also been fairly made: that his tax arrangements were made with the knowledge of the BBC chairman; that he is being condemned by the smears of those who are personally and professionally opposed to him; and that his necessary reforming role at the BBC, so long in the preparation, cannot be carried through by anyone else.

By a curious coincidence yesterday, the foreign secretary, Douglas Hurd, was discoursing more broadly upon the same theme. Britain's free society, according to Mr Hurd, has lost the proper sense of balance between the "doers" and "critics"; the doers are criticised too much, he said, and the critics have become too powerful. The result: a society in which "the currency of achievement" is devalued.

Mr Hurd, the great "doer" of the FO, may not have been thinking too specifically about the tax problems of his fellow "doer" from Broadcasting House. The government has no case for intervening yet. The battle instead is for the pages of the newspapers and the news programmes, including the vast array controlled by Mr Birt himself. Once the "critics" have completed their task, the BBC's editor in chief may be seen as a careless man who failed to adapt the tax-regime of a commercial programme-maker to the more punctilious demands of his new highly public position. Or he may be seen as a bare-faced hypocrite who for years has preached ethical rigour for others while practising laxity himself.

The fate of Mr Birt, seen through the prism provided by Mr Hurd, is thought-provoking. The BBC's director-general, though a "critic" in his early days has earned the title of "doer" by introducing the energy of the market to a tired public institution. It is right that as a public official he be held to higher personal standards than one who answers also to shareholders and markets. It is not right that his image be constantly compared to the BBC's ubiquitous brooding busts of Lord Reith — a monopolist as well as a moralist of a different age.

Mr Birt's judgement was sorely at fault. He did not fail to address the ethical demands of his job. He considered his position and judged it acceptable. Such deliberate tax avoidance by a BBC director-general has both practical and moral implications. Mr Birt was not hired to reduce the BBC to a cartel of private contractors of whom the DG would merely be among the highest paid. Public service broadcasting still needs a central group of committed policy-makers ensuring that the spending of the licence fee is governed by more than self-interest.

The motives of Mr Birt's more gleeful critics are self-serving. But even the ill-motivated can make powerful moral waves. Mr Hurd may find comfort in looking back to a "better age" when journalists and critics knew both their masters and their place. He may reasonably hope for society to restore some lost balance. But Mr Birt — who knew all about the battles ahead when he took the job — must not expect to find Mr Hurd's society in today's real world.

The power of the BBC director-general has been damaged both by his private actions and the debate that followed their disclosure. Mr Birt's private interest may be best served by his remaining in office. So may the private interests of those who appointed him and those who shared his decisions. So may the interests of those within the BBC who desire weaker leadership. But for a few more days — until the governors meet next Thursday — Mr Birt has the responsibility to consider his own position and the balance of broader interests at stake.

RED ALERT OVER KOREA

The world must bring Pyongyang to heel, and time is short

North Korea, one of the world's ugliest and most unpredictable rogue regimes, is believed to be on the verge of producing its first nuclear bomb. Its withdrawal from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the first country ever to do so, is a development of the utmost gravity. Anxiety to prevent nuclear proliferation was part of the background against which the world went to war with Iraq. A nuclear-armed North Korea would endanger the stability of Asia and the future of the treaty itself.

The evidence against North Korea, which has repeatedly denied all intention of developing nuclear weapons, is compellingly strong but not yet conclusively proven. It extracts its own uranium, produces nuclear fuel, is developing nuclear reprocessing and uranium enriching facilities and admits to possessing "minute" quantities of plutonium. Its two nuclear reactors at Yongbyon are not connected to conventional power grids. North Korea initially claimed that these were radio-chemical laboratories: now it says they are non-nuclear military sites which cannot be visited. Last year, North Korea attempted to recruit more than 50 of Russia's senior nuclear weapons scientists.

America has been joined by Russia and, more recently, China, in exerting international pressure. This persuaded North Korea to join the NPT in 1985, but it did not sign the treaty's safeguards agreement until 1992. The inventory it submitted last May to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) revealed more than the world knew, but less than it urgently needs to know.

The radioactive footprints of the plutonium samples the IAEA obtained on its first inspections last year were compatible only with largescale production. The IAEA is now demanding a special inspection of suspect facilities that could yield vital proof. This is the first such inspection the IAEA has ever demanded and a test of its tougher approach, post-Iraq, to monitoring. The deadline for agreement was March 25. By pulling out of the treaty now, Pyongyang confirms suspicions that its apparent co-operation has merely been to buy time.

If North Korea is not compelled to comply with the IAEA's demands, the international effort to control nuclear proliferation will be fatally weakened. Its example could be followed by such probable renegades as Iran, Libya and Algeria. In Asia, there is a serious risk that South Korea, Japan and Taiwan would respond to such a threat by seeking to become nuclear powers.

North Korea must be pressed to rescind its decision — and reminded that since countries must give three months' notice of withdrawal, it is still bound by its treaty obligations. Unless IAEA inspectors are admitted within weeks the IAEA should use its power to refer disputes to the UN Security Council, which should treat the case as a clear "threat to international peace and security".

North Korea is militarily strong but isolated diplomatically and close to economic collapse. Since China and Russia ended barter trade, it has become critically short of food and oil. The credit it desperately needs for vital imports must be denied; a concerted trade embargo would be the logical next step and could well be more effective than such sanctions normally are. China could be the weak link, but seems disposed to co-operate: a nuclear-armed North Korea is not in its interest. If economic sanctions do not work, military strikes will have to be considered. After Iraq, this is the first international test of wills with rogue nuclear regimes. It must succeed.

TESTING THE LAW

Teachers unions must not disrupt classroom tests

The executive of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers decided yesterday to forge ahead with the union's proposed boycott of all national curriculum tests. As its members were planning their juvenile strategy to embarrass John Patten, the education secretary, they might have paused to consider this week's disturbing disclosure that almost a third of 14-year-olds tested in last year's pilot English examinations had a reading age of 9 to 11. Pupils and parents alarmed by this statistic deserve better from teachers than a summer of disruption and anxiety.

Last month's disagreement between the teacher unions and Mr Patten over the new English tests for 14-year-olds has now escalated dramatically. Almost 60 per cent of the NAS/UWT's teaching members turned out for the ballot, of whom 88 per cent voted for a total boycott of all tests for 7, 11 and 14-year-olds. As one would expect of a radical new system, the curriculum and testing structure introduced by the 1988 Education Reform Act has suffered from bureaucracy and a degree of confusion. The initial *casus belli* of the current dispute, for example, was the charge that the English tests for 14-year-olds had been inadequately piloted.

But Mr Patten has already agreed that the results of those particular assessments should not be published in national league table form this year. He has launched a five-year rolling review of the primary national curriculum and announced that the National Foundation for Educational Research will audit this summer's tests. The NAS/UWT action strengthens the case for an entirely new professional structure for teachers, institutionalised in a general teaching council or Royal College of Teachers. In the short term, there is a risk that this summer's tests will be a shambles if the NAS/UWT does not see sense. Only a fraction of the nation's teachers need join the industrial action to undermine the supervision of tests and compilation of results.

Because they are peculiarly vulnerable to sabotage, the tests must be defended all the more vigorously. The legal obligations of teachers and heads to administer them are quite clear. Though the education department cannot initiate court action, it should demand that local authorities and governors of grant-maintained schools explain how they propose to enforce the law this summer. Mr Patten should not leave that task to parents.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Violence on and off the screen

From the President of the National Viewers' and Listeners' Association

Sir, The most frustrating aspect to me of the current debate about the effect of television and film violence upon human behaviour is the regularity with which interested parties like Michael Winner claim that there is no evidence of a link between film and television violence and social violence.

And now, amazingly, they have been joined by Colin Shaw, Director of the Broadcasting Standards Council. He is quoted (report, March 11) as saying that "Nobody has discovered a direct link between television violence and violence on the streets".

My heart sinks that someone in Mr Shaw's position should be so ill-informed about international research, carried out over many years, in many countries, which does indeed leave impartial commentators with no doubt as to the truth of the matter.

The American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association and the National Parent Teacher Association are among hundreds of academic bodies internationally which have all concluded that there is overwhelming evidence that TV and film violence causes important increases in real-life violence and aggression in normal children and adult viewers.

Their research has shown that factual, non-glorifying documentaries have been found to increase rather than decrease sensitivity to violence. When the purpose is to entertain, however, major increases in verbal aggression, anxiety and actual criminal behaviour have been repeatedly found.

The overwhelming consensus of this research is that violent entertainment plays a major role in teaching a culture of violence and distrust to all ages, social classes, ethnic backgrounds and intelligence levels.

It seems to me that honesty and pity are the qualities that we most lack and need to recover.

Yours faithfully,
MARY WHITEHOUSE, President,
National Viewers' and
Listeners' Association,
Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex.
March 11.

From Dr A. Jillian Jones

Sir, As well as the showing of violence on TV I deplore the tendency for certain programmes to ridicule anyone in authority. Children learn from adults and their concept of behaviour is modelled on people they admire. It is now usual to ridicule anyone in the public eye.

Programmes such as *Spitting Image* and much light entertainment are full of unpleasant personal remarks. I have often been much amused by such programmes in the past but in retrospect feel sad that they have become so acceptable.

Perhaps Mrs Mary Whitehouse should have been given more respect and less ridicule for her views 15 to 20 years ago.

Yours faithfully,
A. JILLIAN JONES,
Berehul, Wingfield,
Leighton Buzzard,
Bedfordshire.
March 8.

From Mr Abbas Taher

Sir, It is too convenient for the leaders of our society to link rising crime to violent films. They would rather put the blame on the negative influence of cinema than on their failed social and educational policies.

The problem needs to be resolved at the source. One should not ask why so many violent films are shown but why is there so much demand? "Sex and violence" sell because they appeal to our base instincts; they are a reflection of our fantasies.

In the end one is just witnessing an inevitable trend: what was shocking yesterday is considered as the norm today. And similarly, what is shocking today will be laughed at tomorrow.

Yours sincerely,
ABBAS TAHER,
6 Bloomsbury Close,
Ealing, W5.
March 8.

From Mr Roy Martin

Sir, The principal character in *Silence of the Lambs* is not Hannibal Lecter but Clarice Starling, the FBI agent, admirably played by Jodie Foster, who opposes everything he stands for. It is she who is the audience's "identification figure" and therefore the moral centre of the movie.

As Simon Jenkins ("Hollywood's lethal weapon", March 6) seems keen to accord film the same status as the printed word as far as "offence potential" is concerned, it is also worth noting that Thomas Harris's novel, on which the film is based, was published here without any accusations of incitement to violence or indeed any suggestion that it was anything but a good thriller.

Yours etc,
ROY MARTIN,
11 Arthur Place,
Orts Road,
Reading, Berkshire.
March 7.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 071-782 5046.

Maastricht sceptics and party unity

From Sir Norman Fowler, Chairman of the Conservative party

Sir, In his article, "Central Office thuggery" (March 11), my colleague Nicholas Budgen indicated that I have encouraged constituency workers to consider the deselection of Conservative members of Parliament.

I should make it clear that this is not the case. I have not done so.

I stated this publicly last Friday, before delivering the speech in Harrogate (report, March 6) to which Nicholas objected, at a press conference attended by two journalists from *The Times*. I also made my attitude clear to him personally before he wrote his article.

However, as party chairman I am perhaps permitted from time to time to draw the attention of my colleagues to the importance of party unity.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN FOWLER
(MP for Sutton Coldfield),
Conservative Central Office,
32 Smith Square, Westminster, SW1.
March 12.

From Mr J. L. M. Grint

Sir, I find this talk of deselecting Conservative MPs who fail to support the government over Maastricht (letters, March 10) very strange. Simon Jenkins's comment (March 10) that "the rebels on Monday were not voting on their principles" is stranger still.

What about those Conservative MPs who voiced serious reservations over Maastricht during the election campaign but who have now been cowed into loyally supporting the government on the issue? They are the ones not voting on their principles, and they, surely, are the ones who should be deselected for betraying the trust of their constituents.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GRINT,
6 Tower Road, Orpington, Kent.
March 10.

From Miss A. St John Parker

Sir, Mr Robin Hodgson makes it clear (letter, March 10) that he is "not concerned with the rights and wrongs of the government's European policy", but his apparent faith in Conservative government policy, regardless of its irreversible effects on his fellow constituents' future, manifests the same worrying tendency that Messrs Cash and Budgen, MPs for Stafford and Wolverhampton South West respectively, are attempting to oppose.

Support for a referendum on Maastricht is growing as more people become aware of the issues raised by the treaty proposals, but only with the hard work put in by a number of MPs and others can pressure be brought to bear on the government. Far from ignoring the "relative priorities and concerns of their constituents", MPs demonstrate their integrity by following their own judgment in balancing electoral with national interests.

To deselect an MP because he takes a high view of his obligations to the national interest would ultimately betray local interests also.

Yours faithfully,
ARABELLA ST JOHN PARKER,
28 Alma Square,
St John's Wood, NW8.
March 11.

From Mr David Barton

Sir, Judging by Monday's performance of the House of Commons over the Maastricht bill, any loss of sovereignty to a future European union will be well deserved.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID BARTON,
Loafers, Bosham Lane,
Old Bosham, West Sussex.
March 9.

From Mr Cecil H. P. Bellwood

Sir, Writing in *Le Figaro* on July 2, 1992, M Alain Peyrefitte, a former French justice minister, made the point that the Maastricht treaty will be what each signatory state will make of it. He went on to say that nothing will oblige France to do what France does not wish to do, and nothing will prevent France from acting alone.

It is clear that having ratified the treaty France will continue to act in accordance with French national interests. *C'est normal.*

Perhaps this is an example that others might follow.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL BELLWOOD
(Senior Partner),
Eurotariff (consultants),
Westfield House, Ropley, Hampshire.
March 10.

Question of rights in leasehold bill

From Mr J. H. M. Newsum

Sir, Like many others you appear to have misunderstood (leading article, March 10) the Housing and Urban Development Bill in that its effect is far wider than extending the Leasehold Reform Act 1967 to flats.

For more than two years we have been patiently but doggedly putting forward the "intellectual case" against the bill's excesses, which cannot be said to be in the public interest. The most important point is that the rights being granted are not just to owners of a main residence as is the case in the Leasehold Reform Act.

The government clearly agrees that this qualification is desirable in principle (hence its "concession" on lease extensions), but thinks such a provision in respect of collective enfranchisement would wreck the heart of its bill. This is nonsense, unless the government is trying to force enfranchisement.

The following three linked amendments would greatly add to the opportunities and choice for leaseholders and would, I believe, appease most of those objecting to this bill on the grounds that it goes beyond the principles established in 1967:

1. Grant rights only to those occupying their main residence.
2. Allow leaseholders a choice of enfranchisement or lease extension (which is, in effect, a perpetual extension).
3. Give leaseholders the right, on a simple majority, to take over the management of their block, thereby giving them control irrespective of tenure changes.

These changes would not wreck the bill because those occupying main residences would be in the same, if not a better position than is currently proposed.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY NEWSUM
(Chief Executive),
Grosvenor Estate Holdings,
53 Davies Street, W1.
March 10.

From Lord Boardman

Sir, Your leading article on leasehold reform states quite wrongly that the bill before the House of Lords "merely removes" an anomaly from the 1967 leasehold act by extending a long leaseholder's existing rights to the purchase of houses to the purchase of flats.

The amendment for which many of us voted on March 9 was to put flats and houses in exactly the same position, namely to give residential leaseholders living in blocks of flats the right to acquire the freehold of their block. This is the pledge which was made in the Conservative election manifesto.

However, the bill seeks to extend the right of compulsory purchase to those who have never occupied the flat and have no intention of doing so.

This breaches the principle accepted in the 1967 act, pledged in the manifesto, and which has applied to houses.

The amendment sought to correct this.

Yours faithfully,
BOARDMAN,
House of Lords.
March 10.

Flying with children

From Mr Guy K. Slocombe

Sir, It is apparent from recent reports on British Airways and Virgin Atlantic that both are eager to attract more custom.

I wonder whether either has considered the possibility of segregating those passengers with children from those without and offering the latter among their "cattle class" passengers the option of "children or non-children" when checking in.

Yours faithfully,
GUY SLOCOMBE,
2a Harbledown Road,
Parsons Green, SW6.

God and mammon

From Mr Humphrey Clucas

Sir, I am interested to learn from *Holiday Which?* (report, March 9) that St Paul's Cathedral fails the test as a tourist attraction. I write to point out that it has a little-known secondary use as a place of worship.

Yours etc,
HUMPHREY CLUCAS,
19 Norman Road, Sutton, Surrey.
March 9.

Press controls

From Sir Nicholas Lloyd, Editor of the Daily Express

Sir, It would be a pity if anyone were to take it that Donald Trelford (letter, March 12) represents any Fleet Street editor other than Donald Trelford. He will not find a seconder for his dotty contribution to the debate on press discipline.

No Grand Ombudsman, with or without a court of Lesser Ombudsmen from each newspaper, could achieve the authority already established by the Press Complaints Commission in the first 27 months of its existence.

All Mr Trelford's national editor colleagues have supported reform to empower the PCC to select a lay majority and to operate a code of practice reviewed in the light of recent experience to forbid unwarranted use of eavesdropping devices.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS LLOYD,
Editor, *Daily Express,*
Ludgate House,
245 Blackfriars Road, SE1.
March 12.

Weekend Money letters, page 32

Remembrance of Wilfred Owen

From Mr Michael Moynihan

Sir, Conjectures as to what Wilfred Owen might have become had he survived the First World War (Arts, March 9), including homosexual prep school master, peace movement campaigner and left-wing social realist, were a long way from what he had in mind for himself, according to what his younger brother Harold told me during an interview published in *The Times* (Saturday Review, August 22, 1970).

Recalling that the last thing Wilfred talked to him about on a mutual leave at their home in Shrewsbury was the need to make money, he said: "He had already decided that he would keep pigs 'to finance the poetry', and had even made detailed plans of the bungalow he would build for himself, preferably in Sussex."

Harold Owen, who still talked with wonder of his patronising elder brother's transformation from "stuffy old bookworm" to fighting officer, loved and respected by his men, suggested journalism as the eventual career he might most likely have taken up.

Describing as "sheer nonsense" an American professor's recent deduction that Wilfred was homosexual (Harold: "He deliberately eschewed sex, a celibate for whom poetry supplanted religion"), he would also have given short shrift to Andrew Motion's prediction that a post-war Wilfred "would have been bound to his domineering mother — and half enjoyed it". ("Their close relationship . . . could not have survived. She had already to make excuses for things he said or wrote for which she would have snapped my head off.")

Concerned that his acclaimed autobiographical trilogy, *Journey From Obscurity* (on which the interview was based), might have presented his brother in too unfavourable a light and given a wrong impression of their relationship, Harold said: "I loved Wilfred. You can love someone that you do not like."

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL MOYNIHAN,
Nuthatch, Fletcher Close,
North Mundham, Chichester,
West Sussex.
March 10.

From Mr J. H. Martin

Sir, "They shall grow not old . . .", from Laurence Binyon's poem "For the Fallen", is misquoted ("They shall not grow old . . .") at war memorials every November, and now it is misquoted in *The Times* — twice on the same page ("Just how do we remember them?", March 9).

The late Arthur Mee says that Binyon wrote the words sitting on a cliff at Polzeath, near Pentire Head, Cornwall.

Yours sincerely,
J. H. MARTIN,
21 Rookwood Drive,
Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Converting England?

From Canon Dr Colin Craston

Sir, It remains to be seen how many Church of England clergy opposed to the ordination of women priests will find the Roman Catholic "option" suggested by Cardinal Hume, with conditional ordination, attractive.

What will perturb many other Anglicans, however, is the cardinal's reported view (details, March 5) that any move by clergy and laity over to Rome will be a fulfilment of prayers for "the conversion of England".

The return of Church of England members to the Roman Catholic faith and obedience is not the model of the movement to Christian unity that most Anglicans could accept. Nor is it what most see as the conversion of this nation prayed for in the Decade of Evangelism.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. CRASTON,
St Paul's Vicarage,
174 Chorley New Road,
Bolton,
Greater Manchester.
March 5.

Sauce for ganders

From Dr Mary Rice

Sir, Why not a league table for government ministers?

Yours faithfully,
MARY RICE,
Kingslace, 18 Shepherds Way,
Liphook, Hampshire.
March 5.

Public debate

From Mr Paul Campbell

Sir, So, a private car on a public highway is a public place (Law Report, March 8).

I have long been meaning to call a public meeting to debate the subject "Semantics can be fun" but have been deterred by the lack of a suitable venue.

I am now happy to extend an invitation to all interested members of the public. Please meet me in the back of Mr Justice Waller's car, 4pm sharp, April 1, Royal Courts of Justice.

Yours faithfully,
P. S. CAMPBELL,
34 Haggard Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex.
March 9.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 12: The Prince Edward, President, the Lord's Taverners, this morning received the Chairman (Mr Brian Baldock) at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness this evening visited the Ballooning Event "Night Glow" in support of Comic Relief Red Nose Day, Hyde Park, London W1.

The Prince Edward later visited *the volunteers in British Telecom* Tower, 16 Cleveland Street, London W1.

His Royal Highness finally met participants and volunteers of the "Night of Comic Relief" programme, BBC Television Centre, Wood Lane, London W12, and was received by the Chairman of Charity Projects (Mr Paul Jackson).

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

March 12: The Prince of Wales this morning visited the London Clinic, 20 Devonshire Place, London W1.

Miss Belinda Harley was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President, the Royal Naval Film Corporation, *later embarked in HMS Marlborough* and attended the Annual General Meeting and Luncheon (Commander Peter Eberle, RN).

Commander Robert Fraser, RN, was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 12: The Duchess of Gloucester was represented by Mrs Michael Wigley *(Lady in Waiting)* at a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir John Prideaux (President, Iris Fund for Prevention of Blindness) which was held at *Southwark Cathedral, London* SE1.

Royal engagement

Prince Edward will attend the 77th Royal Navy v Army rugby *match at Twickenham at 12.15* today.

Luncheon

Lord Bottomley

Lord Bottomley was host yesterday at a luncheon given by the Executive Committee of the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to bid farewell *to the speakers and members* of the Commonwealth Parliaments attending the 1993 parliamentary seminar at Westminster. Mr Colin Shepherd, MP, *chairman of the executive com*mittee, presided.

Reception

Lord Barber

Lord Barber entertained the Anglo-Danish Society at a reception held yesterday at the House of Lords.

Middle Temple

Mr John Major, the Prime Minister, was called to the Bench of the *Middle Temple at dinner in* Middle Temple Hall on Thursday, March 11.

Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators

The following have been installed Officers of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators for the ensuing year:

Master, Captain Clive Elton; Master-elect, *Captain Christopher Hodgkinson;* Wardens, Captain Geoffrey Fowkes, Dr Ian Perry and Mr Ronald Bridge.

Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh

At a diploma ceremony in Edinburgh yesterday Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh was conferred upon Professor *Sir James* Black, Nobel Laureate, Chancellor of the University of Dundee and Chairman of the James Black Foundation, London; and upon Professor John Terblanche of the College of Medicine of South Africa.

University news

Cambridge

Clare College

Robert Hepple to be Master of *Clare College from October 1.*

Dinners

Institute of Marine Engineers

Mr Gerald Geddes, President of the Institute of Marine Engineers, was host at the annual dinner held last night at Grosvenor House. Mr F.M. Everard and Mr M.R. Ellis were the guests of honour and speakers. Among others present were:

Ambassadors, High Commissioners and other members of the Diplomatic Corps, *the Secretary-General of the International* Maritime Organisation, the President of *the Chamber of Shipping*, the Director-General of the Engineering Council, the Chairman of the Salvage Association and Professor G Guetschow.

Cornhill Club

Sir Peter Middleton, deputy chairman of Barclays Bank and chairman of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, was guest speaker at the 51st *annual dinner of the Cornhill Club* held on March 10. Mr Graham H.W. Rumney, chairman, presided. Mr Brian Pitman, the Club's new president, and 200 senior representatives of the major banks and city financial institutions were also present.

Service dinners

Royal Marines

Major-General John Hardy presided at the annual dinner of the Royal Marines Officers' Dinner Club held last night at Lincoln's Inn. The guests included Mr *Michael Corkery, QC, the Right* Rev Gerard Lavender, RN, and Captain Malcolm Carver, RN.

Oxford University Officers' Training Corps

Lieutenant-Colonel J.S.M. Walker, *Officers and* Officer Cadets of Oxford University Officers' Training Corps *held* their annual dinner last night at Keble College. General Sir Peter Inge, *Chief of the General Staff, was the* guest of honour. Among others present were:

Field Marshal Sir John Chapple (Honorary Colonel), Professor Richard Tilleard-Cole (Deputy Honorary Colonel), Lieutenant-General the Hon Sir *William* Rous, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Swinburn, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford Brookes University, the Master of Balliol College and the Warden of Keble College.

Defence Research Agency

Group Captain R. Beazley was host at the annual Test Pilots dinner held last night at No 1 RAF *Officers Mess. Defence Research* Agency Farnborough. Mr J. Farley was the guest speaker.

Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron

Air Marshal Sir John Willis, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief RAF Support Command, was the *guest of honour at the annual* dinner of the Northumbrian Universities Air Squadron held last night at Newcastle University. Squadron Leader D J Daulby presided.

Memorial services

Sir John Prideaux

The Duchess of Gloucester, on behalf of the Iris Fund, was represented by Mrs M. Wigley at a *service of thanksgiving for the life* of Sir John Prideaux held yesterday in Southwark Cathedral. *Canon Roy White, Vice-Provost of* Southwark, officiated, assisted by the Rev Michael Stevens, Hospitaler, St Thomas' Hospital, and the Rev Colin Tickner. Mr Christopher Prideaux and Mr Michael Prideaux, sons, read the lessons and Mr Barry T. Jackson gave an address. *The Lord Lieutenant of* Surrey and the Governor of the Bank of England and Mrs Leigh-*Pemberton attended. The Sec*retary of State for Health was represented by Mr John Garnett. Among others present were:

Lady Prideaux (widow), Mr and Mrs Alaster Templeton (son-in-law and daughter), Sir Humphrey and Lady Prideaux and Mr and Mrs Andrew Prideaux (brothers and sisters-in-law), Mrs Christopher Prideaux and Mrs Michael Prideaux (daughters-in-law), Mr and Mrs Sam Mainds, Mr and Mrs David Prideaux, Mr Charles Prideaux, Miss Laura Prideaux, Miss Katharine Templeton, Miss Jane Templeton and John Prideaux (grandchildren), Mr Walter Prideaux, Mr and Mrs Gordon Lee-Steere, Mrs E Levy, Mr John Drummond-Hay, *Mr Robert* Drummond-Hay, Mr M O Jodrell.

The Earl of Harrowby (chairman, Private Bank and Trust Company) and the Countess of Harrowby, Viscount Boyne, Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne, KG, Lord Glenarthur, Lord Cunliffe, Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC (chairman, National Westminster Bank) *with Mr Thomas Frost (deputy* chairman); Lord Amherst of Hackney, Lord Boardman, Lord Denman, Lord and Lady Remnant, Lord and Lady Adrian, Lord Farnham, Lord Butterfield (chairman of council of governors, United Medical and Dental Schools for Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals) with Mrs K Glendinning; Lord *Hollenden, Lady Harriot Tennant* (representing the trustees, Chelsea Physic Garden), the Hon Robin Hope-Morley.

Sir Robert Reid (chairman, West Lambeth Health Authority, St Thomas' Hospital) with Mr Crawford Jamieson, Ms Elizabeth Winder, and other members of the authority; Sir Robin Dent (Special Trustees for St Thomas' Hospital) with other special trustees; Mr Bryan McSwiney (veterans and friends) and Mrs McSwiney; Professor I R Cameron (United Medical and Dental Schools), Mrs May Lewis (L-Propal), Mr Richard Sawyer, *Miss Patricia* Mowbray (Florence Nightingale Trust) and Miss Natalie Tiny (Nightingale Fellowship).

Sir Anthony Touche, Sir Martin Wedgwood, Sir Richard and Lady Baker Wilbraham, *Sir Charles Whishaw, Sir Charles* Hardie (21 Army Group), Sir Alan Campbell, Sir David Woodbine Parish, Sir Alan Bray (West Lambeth Community Care Trust), Sir Edward Ford, Sir Alenn Copisarow, Dame Anne Bryans, *Sir Edward and Lady Playfair*, Sir Stephen Miller, Sir Philip Wilkinson.

The Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company and Mrs Stirling and other members of the company; Mr R A B Nicolle (*Iris Fund for Prevention of Blindness*), Mr James T H Macnair (Refresh), Dr W S Marston (Cicely Northcote Trust), Major General L F H Busk (British Heart Foundation), Mr Peter Winship (assistant commissioner, Metro*politan Police*), *Mr I R Farnsworth (Coutts and* Company), Mr David Peake (Kleinwort Benson Group), Mr Christopher A Clarke (Samuel Montagu), Mr Angus Ivory (Brown Brothers Harriman), Mr W R Stansford (*Brown Shipley Investment Management*), Mr David Lockwood (Agricultural Mortgage Corporation), Mr Robert G Coates (Robert Coates Associates) and Mrs Coates, *Mr Richard* Mansell-Jones (chairman, J Bibby and Sons), Mr Angus Gilroy (Binder Hamlyn).

Mr David Evans (London Assay Office), Mrs A B Agnew (Surrey Union Hunt), Mr Julian James (*St Aubyn's School, Rottingdean*) and Mrs James, Captain A J Walsh, RN, and Mr John Waddington (Royal Alexandra and Albert School, Reigate, Surrey), Mr Desmond Hampton (representing the partners, *Cluttons*), *Mr Julian Judd (representing the* chairman, Walter Judd), Captain C M Knight (Chairman, Victoria League), Mr George Key (chairman, Middlesex Yeomanry Association), Mr John Colvin (Brooks's), Brigadier M R Topple (Royal Signals Association), Colonel R Thwaites (31 Signal Regiment).

Mr Gerald Mortimer, Miss Joyce Carney, Mr W D Wylie, *Mr and Mrs W Birch Reynardson*, Mr and Mrs David Lowes, Mr Charles Green, Mr Oliver Cox, Mrs Isabella Doble, Mr and Mrs T Robinson, Mr and Mrs Christopher Parker, Mr Ben Thompson-McCausland, *Professor* and Mrs E T Hall, Mr Charles Shakerley, Mr Piers Dixon, Mr and Mrs Robert Priestley, Professor and Mrs R Goodden, Mr *and Mrs John Winstanley, Mr F O Collins*, Mr Peter Ashley Miller, Major and Mrs J R More-Molyneux, Professor and Mrs Charles Fletcher, *Mr John Pullan, Dr and Mrs John* Anderson, Mr Miles Rivett-Carnac, Mr and Mrs Thomas Frost, Mr John Dunlop.

Dr and Mrs Brian Creamer, Mr Gordon Bayley, Mr T A Green, Mr and Mrs Christopher Reeves, *Mr John Padovan, Professor R D* Bradley, Mr Angus Stirling, Dr Richard Thompson, Mr Hugo Morley-Fletcher, Mrs Ann Mavroleon, *Miss R Barnardiston*, Mr Alexander Russell, Mrs D Meinertzhagen, Mr Philip A Girle, Mr and Mrs John E Hough, Mr John Ellacombe, Mr Peter Colecluogh, Mr John A Humsworth, Mr and Mrs Michael Verey, *Mr Denis J Cadman*, Mr and Mrs Joseline Grove.

His Honour Thomas Kellock, QC

The Secretary-General of the Commonwealth and Mrs Anyaoku were present at a service *of thanksgiving* for the life of *His* Honour Thomas Oslaf Kellock, QC, held on Thursday at the *Temple Church*. Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated. Dr Donald Kellock, brother, and Sir John May, Treasurer of the Inner Temple, read the lessons. *Sir* Godfray Le Quesne, QC, gave an address. Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, attended. Among others present were:

Mrs Kellock (widow), Mrs Donald Kellock (sister-in-law), Mr and Mrs James Kellock, Mr and Mrs Dennis Paravicini, Mr Robert Kellock, Mr Nick Kellock.

Lord Wigoder, QC, and Lady Wigoder, Lord Justice and Lady Balcombe, Lord Griffiths, Lord Rees, QC, Sir John Stephenson, Sir David Steele, MP, *Lady May, Lady de Bunsen, Lady Le* Quesne, Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, Sir Trevor Reeve, Sir Hugh Park, Sir William Goodhart, QC, His Honour Sir William Stabb, QC, and Lady Stabb, Mr Justice Chadwick, Mr Justice Tucker, *Mr Justice Brougier, Sir Gordon* Borrie, QC, Mr J Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, His Honour Edgar Fay, QC, Judge and Mrs Mildon, Judge Heald, Judge David Wilcox, Judge Aglionby, Judge Coltran, Judge and Mrs John Baker, *Judge Smedley*, QC, (Sovereign Base Areas Cyprus), Master Murray.

Capt F T *Sheehan (sub-treasurer, Inner* Temple), Mr A J Cragg (Ministry of Defence), Mr Richard Nzerem (Commonwealth Secretariat), Mr Terry Walters (Nottingham Trent University Law School), Mr G De Mornay *Davis (Zambia Society)*, Miss Nicola Padfield (editor, *The Commonwealth Judicial Journal*), Mr Humphrey Lewis (Nottingham Bar Mess), *Mr Robin Forrest* (secretary, Reform Club), Mrs J Robinson, Mr Jeremy Pope, Mrs Janis Taverne, Mr Gerald Bowden, *Mr Roger Pincham, Mr and Mrs John Grigg*, Mr James Lemkin, Mrs Rosemary Wolff, Mr Tilak Gooneratne, Miss Judy Young, Mr E G Nugee, QC, Mr David Gardam, QC, Miss Shirley Ritchie, QC, Mr F Ashe Lincoln, QC, Mr John Platts-Mills, QC, *Miss Beryl Cooper*, QC.

Lord Dowding

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work *of Lord Dowding* was held yesterday at St Clement Danes, Strand. The Rev A.T.R. Goode officiated. Mr Paul H. Robinson *Jr* read *"Flight"* by Brian Young and Mr David Laver from the works of Canon Henry *Scott* Holland. Wing Commander J.R.C. Young gave an address. The Corporation of London was represented by Mr Deputy C.D. Woodward, Chief Commoner.

Mr Richard Bird

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Richard (Dicky) Bird was held yesterday at St Paul's, Covent Garden. *The Rev Stephen* Coles officiated and Miss Mary Williams read the lesson. Mr *Sebastian Graham-Jones read* from Shakespeare's *Cymbeline*, Sir Peter Hall read from Plato's *The Last Days of Socrates*, and Mr Simon Callow read *The Farewell* by Mong-Kao-Yen and Wang-Wei. Mr Michael Codron gave an address.

Requiem Mass

Mr Tom Casey

Requiem Mass for Mr Thomas Aquinas Casey, Mch, FRCS, *FCOphth, took place on Friday*, March 5, at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London, W1. Father Michael Beattie, SJ, was the principal celebrant, and Father Stanislaus Hobbs, OSB, gave the homily. *Father Iain Matthew*, OCarm, Father Michael Hopley, OSB, and Father Michael O'Brien, SJ, also concelebrated. The music was from the Requiem Mass by Ga*briel Fauré*. A large congregation of patients, friends and colleagues attended.



Michael Caine, the actor, is 60 tomorrow

Weekend birthdays

TODAY: *Miss Valerie Amos*, chief executive, Equal Opportunities Commission, 39; Mr Walter Annenberg, American *diplomat*, 85; Sir Raymond Bell, former vice-president, European Investment Bank, 77; Sir Gordon Borrie, QC, former Director-General of Fair Trading, *62; Mr* Terence Brady, playwright, novelist and actor, 54; Professor C.O. Brink, classicist, 86; Sir Terence Burns, economist, 49; Lord Butterworth, 75; Sir Michael Checkland, former director-general, BBC, 57; Miss Lesley Collier, ballerina, 46; Sir Robert Mark, former commissioner, Metropolitan Police, 76; Lady Audrey Morris, 83; *Captain Sir* Henry Nevile, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, 73; Air Commodore Helen Renton, former director, WRAF, 62; Sir Reo Stakis, hotelier, 80; Major-General *D.A.L.* Wade, 95.

TOMORROW: Sir Kenneth Alexander, former vice-chancellor, *Stirling University, 71; Miss Pam* Ayres, poet, 46; Mr Jasper Carrott, comedian, 48; Professor Sir Colin *Dollery, professor of medicine*, 62; Mr Alan Elliott, chief constable, Cumbria, 51; Mr John Elton, *company director*, 69; Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Graham, 56; the Earl of Halifax, 49; the Hon Alan Hare, former chairman, the *Financial Times*, 74; Sir Richard Hayward, former *chairman*, Supplementary Benefits Commission, 83; Sir Philip Holland, former MP, 76; Lord Keyes, 74; Mr Gavin Laird, trades unionist, 60; *Air Chief Marshal Sir Douglas* Lowe, 71; Lord Marsh, 65; Sir Eric Norris, diplomat, 75; Mr Bill Owen, actor, 78; Sir Richard Parsons, diplomat, 65; Dame *Betty Paterson, former chairman*, NW Thames Regional Health Authority, 77; Miss Tessa Sanderson, athlete and broadcaster, 37; Mr W.M. Sillery, headmaster, Belfast Royal Academy, 52; Mr A.D. Smith, president, Magdalen College, Oxford, 55; *Miss Rita* Tushingham, actress, 51; Mr John Wain, author, 68.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S. Bucknill and Miss A.J. Cotton

The engagement is announced between Stephen, son of Mr and Mrs David Bucknill, of Grateley, *Hampshire*, and Amanda, daughter of Mr Bob Cotton, of Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, and of *Mrs Jenny* Cotton, of Notting Hill Gate, London.

Mr P. Challis and Miss L.A. Cole

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of the late Mr D. Challis and of Mrs M. Challis, *of Enfield*, and Lucinda, second daughter of Mr and Mrs J.C. Cole, of Warmington, Banbury.

Mr O.J.N. Chick and Miss M. Didyk

The engagement is announced between Oliver, eldest son of Mr and *Mrs John Chick, of* Whitchurch, Buckinghamshire, and Michele, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Teodor Didyk, of Willesden, London.

Mr P.S.C. Clarke and Miss J.C. Vangen

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs J.P. Clarke, of Maidstone, Kent, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs D.C. Vangen, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr T.D. Coombs and Miss C.M. Bailey

The engagement is announced between Tim, son of Mr T.G. Coombs, of Ufton, Warwickshire, and *Mrs D.E.* Byfleet, of Countisbury, Devon, and Claire, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs M.J. Bailey, of Guildford, Surrey.

Mr A.A.P. Godwin and Miss C. Knoops

The engagement is announced between Alan, son of Mr Tony Godwin, of London, W14, and Mrs Queenie Godwin, of London, W8, and Caroline, daughter of Mrs Diana Knoops, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Mr Paul Knoops, of The Netherlands.

Mr J. Hunt and Miss G. Darvell

The engagement is *announced* between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs John Howard Hunt, of *Kensington, and Georgina*, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Darvell, of Shrewsbury.

Mr H.L. Mark and Miss B.C. Leseberg

The engagement is announced between Harry, only son *of the late* Herrn Joseph Mark and Frau Lucia Mark, of Wörgl, Austria, and Birte, eldest *daughter of Mr* and Mrs Michael Leseberg, of East Bergholt, Suffolk.

Dr M.J. Plummeridge and Miss R.J.H. Read

The engagement is announced between *Martin, son of Mr Brian* Plummeridge, of New Romney, Kent, and Mrs Brian Mitchell, of Hythe, Kent, and Rebecca, daughter of Captain Keith Read, RN, and *Mrs* Sheila Read, of Brixton Deverill, Wiltshire, and Rome.

Mr M.W. Woods and Miss M.A.E. Graham

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr William Weymouth Woods, of Little Gaddesden, *Hertfordshire*, and Marika Anna Elisabet, daughter of Brie and Martin Murray, of Blewbury, Oxon.

Anniversaries

Today

BIRTHS: Charles Grey, 2nd Earl Grey, prime minister 1830-34, Fallodon, Northumberland, 1764; *Sir Hugh Walpole, novelist*, Auckland, New Zealand, 1884; George Seferis, poet, Nobel laureate 1963, Smyrna, 1900.

DEATHS: Richard Burbage, actor, London, 1619; John Frederic Daniell, chemist, inventor of the electric cell, London, 1845; Alexander II, Tsar of Russia 1855-81, assassinated Leningrad, 1881; Stephen Vincent Benet, novelist and poet, New York, 1943; Angela Brazil, writer of girls' school stories, Coventry, 1947.

At a by-election in Bridgwater, Somerset, 18-year-olds were eligible to vote for the first time in Britain, 1970.

Tomorrow

BIRTHS: Johann Strauss the elder, violinist and composer, Vienna, 1804; Isabella Beeton, author of *The Book of Household Management*, London, 1836; Albert Einstein, physicist, Ulm, Germany, 1879.

DEATHS: George Wade, field marshal and road builder, *London, 1748; John Byng*, admiral, executed on board *Monarque* in Portsmouth Harbour for failing to relieve Minorca, 1757; Karl Marx, political theorist, London, 1883; George Eastman, pioneer of photography, Rochester, New York, 1932; Nikolai Bukharin, journalist and politician, executed, Moscow, 1938; Busby Berkeley, choreographer, California, 1976; Sir Huw Wheldon, broadcaster, London, 1986; *Zita*, former empress of Austria, 1989.

The first submarine telephone line *was laid across the Channel*, 1891.

The New English Bible (New Testament) was published, 1961.

Church services tomorrow

Third Sunday In Lent
Four Before Easter

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC 9.30 Sung Euch (Our Lady Undercroft); 9.30 M; 11 Sung Euch, Mass in G (Poulenc), O heare us, Lord (Bennett), The Dean; 3.15 E, Responses *(Leighton), Collegium Regale (Howells), Lord*, let me know mine end (Greene); 6.30 Sermon & Compline (Eastern Crypt), Rev J H R de Sausmarez.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Sung Euch, Voluntary *in E minor* (Stanley), Ireland in C, Bread of heaven (Wadely), Toccata Suite Modale (Peeters), Canon Rex Chapman; 6.30 *Night Prayers, Mrs Joan Barham*.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC 9.30 Parish Communion, Canon Paul Brett; 11.15 M, Responses (Morley), Benedictus (Elgar), Lord, let me know mine end (Greene), Canon *David Knight; 6 Choral E, Responses (Morley)*, Short Service (Farrant), Salvator mundi (Blow), The Provost.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: *7.45* Litany; 8 HC 10 Choral M, Benedicite (Sumsion in B flat), Benedictus, Canon Owen Conway; 11.30 Choral Euch, Missa Octavi Toni (Johann Matthaeus Asola), O Lord God, (Percy Buck), *Wash me throughly (Handel); 3.30 Choral E*, Responses (Ebdon), Short Service (Gibbons), Lord, let me know mine end (Greene), Organ: Prelude & Fugue in F minor (Bach); 6.30 ES, Canon Roy Lawrence.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: *8 HC 10.15 M*, Benedicite in A (Harris), Behold, the tabernacle of God (Harris), Canon Brown; *11.30 HC. Mass in five parts* (Byrd), Canon Hodgson; 3.30 E, The Second Service (Byrd), O Lord, in thy wrath (Gibbons), Organ: Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist (Bach).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa O Quam *Gloriosum* (Vittoria), *Surely he* hath borne our griefs (Handel), Crucifixus (Lotti), Organ: Prelude in C minor (Bach), The *Dean; 3.45 E, Preces* (Tomkins), Purcell in B flat, Jehova quam multi (Purcell), Organ: Toccata and Fugue in D minor (Bach); 6.30 Taize style worship, the Bishop of Huntingdon.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC 10 M; 10.30 *Sung Euch, Darke in F, O Lord, increase our* faith (Loosemore), the Precentor; 4 Choral E, Responses (Smith), Wood in D, Like as the hart *desireth the waterbrooks* (Howells).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 Litany; 8 HC 9.30 Sung Euch, Messe solennelle (Langlais), Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé), Canon R Clark; 11.15 M, Responses (Byrd), The Lamentation *(Bairstow), O Lord, look down from heaven* (Battishill); 12.30 HC; 2 L.A.M.B. Service (Gilbert Pook); 3.45 E, Moeran in D, Ye now are sorrowful (Brahms), The Precentor.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & Litany; 8 *Holy Euch, Rev J F Redvers Harris; 9 Parish* Euch, Rev J F Redvers Harris; 11 Sung Euch & Confirmation, Darke in A minor, O Lord, give thy *Holy Spirit* (Tallis), The Lord Bishop; 12.15 HC (Lady Chapel); 3.30 Choral E, Collegium Regale (Howells), Hear my prayer, O God (Purcell); 6.30 Parish E & Sermon, Ven R H Roberts.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP; 9 HC 10.30 Sung Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton), When David heard that Absalom was slain (Tomkins), Canon Bruce Duncan; 6.30 E, Nicholson in D, Lead me, Lord (Wesley), *Canon Paul Denby*.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC 11 Euch, Missa Brevis (Berkeley), Crucifixus (Lotti), Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley), Canon Roger Royle; 3 E, Walmisley in D minor, In jejunio et fletu (Byrd), Canon *Richard Bradberry*.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC 9 M, The Chancellor; 10 Sung Euch, Tantum Ergo *(Duruflé)*, Truro Euch *(David Briggs)*, Ubi Caritas (Duruflé), Organ: Fugue sur le nom d'Alain (Duruflé), The Deacon; 6 E, Responses (Smith), Short Service (Gibbons), Hear my prayer (Mendelssohn), Organ: Jesus accepte la Souffrance (Messiaen), *The Treasurer*.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC 9.45 Sung Euch, Missa in simplicitate (Langlais), Ave verum corpus (Hendrie), Ven C E Thomas, Archdeacon of Wells; 11.30 M, Benedicite and Benedictus (plainsong); Let us now laud and magnify (Mundy); 3 E, Howells in E, He that hath now my commandments (Mundy), Ven J E Burgess, Archdeacon of Bath.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC; 10 M, Benedicite (Harris), The Lord is my shepherd (Berkeley), Canon Paul Bates; 11.15 Abbey Euch Mass in four parts (Byrd), Prevent us, O Lord (Byrd), Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Rev Paul Ferguson; 3 E, Wesley in E, *Cast me not away* (Wesley), Rev Laurence Gunner; 6.30 Corymeela Sunday Service, Rt Rev Dr John *Dunlop*.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: Mass 7, 8, 9, 12, 5.30 & 7; 10.30 *SM, Mass for five voices* (Berkeley), Super flumina Babylonis (Palestrina), Salvator mundi (Tallis); 10 MP, *2.30 Organ recital; 3.30 Solemn V & B*, Magnificat tertii toni (Malcolm), Ave Regina caelorum (Lobo).

YORK MINSTER: 8 & 8.45 HC; 10 Sung Euch, Litany (Loosemore), Mass for four voices (Byrd), Rev Leon Carberry; *11.30 M*, Responses (Smith), The Lamentation (Bairstow), Benedictus (Moore); 4 E, Stanford in C, Jehovah quam multi sunt hostes, Canon John Toy.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 11 Choral M, Responses (Ferial), Benedictus, The Lamentation (Bairstow), Wash me throughly (Wesley), Organ: Prelude and Fugue in E *minor (Bach), Rev Shirley Griffiths*.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 6pm LM (Sat); 8 Children's service; 10 First Scrutiny RCIA Programme; 5 Stations of the Cross; 6 LM; 11.30 HM, Mass *for four voices (Byrd), Crucifixus (Lotti)*, Rev Canon James P Pannett.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, *Edinburgh*: 8 HC, The Minister; 10 HC, Missa brevis (Leighton), The Minister; 11.30 MS, O Sacrum Convivium (Messiaen), Robert Simpson; *St Giles' at 6*, Talk by Rev Dr Theodore Weber, Music by Herrick Bunney; 8 ES, Rev Dr J Philip Newell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 M, Responses (Ebden), Benedicite & Jubilate in B flat (Purcell), Canon Christopher Hill; 11.30 HC, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Ave verum corpus (Byrd); 3.15 E, Magnificat (Swayne), Nunc dimittis, Jehova quam multi sunt hostes mei (Purcell), Organ: Fantasia and Fugue in C minor (Bach), *Rev David Burgess*.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, Dundee: 8 HC; 9.40 *Sung Communion, Cast me not away* (Wesley), Rev Alan Roy; 6.30 Choral E, Out of the deep (Morley), no sermon.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8 & 5.15 HC; 11 HM, Missa Brevis (Leighton), *Jesu grant me this I pray (Whitlock), Rev C L Gaskin*; 6 E & B, The Short Service (Morley), Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), Rev C A Jones.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev Stephen Wookey; 6.30 Communion Service, *I am the vine (John Bell), Rev Dr John Stott*.

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 9.45 Sunday School; 11 Worship, Rev J Schmidt.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa brevis (Selber), *Caligaverunt oculi mei* (Vittoria), O Lord increase my faith (Gibbons).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M, Organ: Fantasia in C (Byrd), Mr Tim Dean; 12 HC; 6 E, A Hymn on *Divine Music (Croft), Rev P Elvy*.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15 Fr Raymond Gawronski, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM, Mass of *St Clare* (Refice), Super flumina Babylonis (Palestrina), O quam tristis: *Quando corpus morietur*.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC, Mr Kenneth Costa; 11 Informal Service (Service and Children's Church), Rev Nicholas Gumbel; 6.30 Informal Service, Rev Tom Gillum.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Quarti toni (Victoria), Ad te levavi oculos meos (Palestrina), 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B, Inter vestibulum (Ceballos).

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11 & 6.30 Spring Festival Services, Dr John Tudor.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Choral HC, Rev Ronald T Englund; 7 *Feel the Spirit* (gospel musical based on the lives and songs of evangelists Moody and Sankey with professional cast and *St Anne's choir). No admission charge*.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M & Litany (Tallis) in Procession, Benedicite (Shaw), O Lord, in thy wrath (Gibbons), Rev Anthony Winter; 6.30 E, Plainsong and faux-bourdons (Henley Willan), Locus iste (Bruckner), The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch, Benedicite (Dyson in F), Missa Vidi speciosam (Victoria), O hearken thou (Elgar), Canon John Oates; 6.30 Choral E, Responses (Leighton); Canticles: Sumsion in A, Emendemus in melius (Byrd), Civitas sancti tui (Byrd), Organ: Chorale Prelude on Vater unser im Himmelreich (Bach).

ST CLEMENT DANES: 9 HC; 11 M, The Short Service (Gibbons), Lord let me know mine end (Greene), Rev Robin Turner; 12.15 HC.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 Mass for five voices (Byrd), Civitas sancti tui (Byrd).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 Sung Euch, Stanford in B flat, O pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Goss), The Rector.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 11 *Choral M, Responses (Tomkins)*, Lamentations (Tallis), Benedictus (Alcock in E), In jejunio et fletu (Tallis), Rev Jeremy Caddick; 12.15 HC.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC *(1662); 9.45 Euch, Martin Flowers; 11.30* Visitors to London Service, Rev Gilbert Lee; 2.45 Chinese Service, Rev Gilbert Lee; 5 Choral E; 6.30 ES (Taize), Rev John Pridmore.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM; *11 HM, Communion Service (Farrant)*, Fr Brian Horne; 6 Solemn E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Parish Euch, Mass (plainsong), Remember not Lord our offences (Purcell), *Rev Sally Webster; 6 Prayer & Meditation*.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Choral Euch, Short Communion Service (Batten), Hear my prayer, O Lord (Tomkins), The Rector; 6.30 EP.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Choral M, Responses (Ebden), Benedicite (Purcell in C), Benedictus (Gibbons in F), Whisper it easily, *sad is the story (Jeffreys)*.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8 & 9 HC; 11 Solemn Euch, Missa à 4 (Monteverdi), In jejunio et fletu (Tallis), The secret sins (Gibbons), Rev Roger Holloway.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 Sung Euch, Mass The Western Wind (Tye), Rev Fr Ashley Back.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8 & 9 *LM; 11 SM, Missa à 3 (Lotti)*, Recordare (Pergolesi?) Iniquitatem (Pezzabotto?) II, Jesu nostra Redemptio (Byrd), Fr John Towers; 6 Stations of the Cross & Benediction.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; *11.15 MP, Like as the hart (Howells), Canon A* Bowden.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Benedicite (Trumblings in E flat), Jubilate (Healey Willan faux-bourdons), From *all that dwell (Walmisley); 3.30 E, Call to* remembrance (Farrant), Ayleward Short Service, Wash me throughly (Wesley).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 11 Sung Euch, Missa brevis (Gabrieli), Ad *te levavi oculos meos (Wise)*, Adoramus te (Gasparini), Rev Nicholas Roberts.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M, Benedicite (Dyson in F), Salvator Mundi (Blow), Ven Kenneth Gibbons; 12.30 HC.

ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC, The Chaplain; 11 M & Sermon, Responses (Gibbons & Barnard), Te Deum, Jubilate (Britten in C), Out of the Deep (Morley), Rev John Cowling.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (William Smith), The Lamentations of Jeremiah (Bairstow), Benedictus (Walford Davies in G), O Lord, look down from heaven (Battishill), Organ: Sonata *No.1* in C minor first movement (Rheinberger), the Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: Services at Chelsea Barracks, SW1, 11 M, O almighty God (Barcrofte), Benedicite & Gloria, *Wash me throughly* (Wesley), Organ: Imperial march (Elgar), The Chaplain (Band of The Welsh Guards); 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 Sung Euch, the Chaplain.

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If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this wicked and godless age, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.
St. Mark 8:38

BIRTHS

BIGLEY - On 11th March at Princess Margaret Hospital, Swindon, to Julia *(née Angel)* and Neil, a son, James Kenelm. Many thanks to the nursing staff.

BRILL - On March 11th, to Angela (née Holt) and Christopher, a daughter, Hannah Olivia, a sister for Frances.

BUTLER - On March 10th at the Wellington Hospital, to Marie-Louise (née Moberg) and Mark, a son, Michael Gustav.

DUNNER - *On March 11th at* the Wellington Hospital, to Zev and Eliane, a son, a brother to Vael and Benny.

ELLERTON - On 10th March, to Elizabeth (née Grant) and Christopher, a daughter, Lucy.

EVANS - Born on March 9th 1993, to Denise and Glyn, a son, Marcus Kingsley.

ILLINGWORTH - On March 4th, at Queen Charlotte's, to *Fiona (née Short) and Robin*, a son, Toby Holden.

JOHNSON - On March 8th, to Carole (née Langridge) and Richard, a son, Thomas Alexander.

JONES - On March 10th, to Carolyn (née Sharpley) and Michael, a son, a brother for Vanessa and Fiona.

LANGLANDS PEARSE - On March 10th, to Dominic and Sarah (Gordon Cumming), a son.

MACKAY - On March 4th, to Pamela (née Stacey) and Andrew, a daughter, Rosie Florence Sutherland, a sister for Fi.

MARGESSON - On March 9th, to Sheryl and James, a *daughter*, Victoria, a sister for Kate.

McALISTER - On March 11th 1993, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Hazel and Hugh, a son, Henry Morgan Grant.

MOSELEY - On March 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Jonathan and Annabel, a daughter, a sister for Emily and Alice.

PENNY - On 6th March 1993, to Nick and Lorraine, a beautiful son, Henry George, a brother and playmate for William.

ROUSE - On 22nd February, to *Piers and Amanda* (née Musgrave), a beloved son, Theodore.

SAUL RADUNSKI and Helen McBride are delighted to announce the birth of our son Milo, born at Melbourne on 2nd March. Mother and child both fine and happy.

DEATHS

ADLINGTON - On March 11th 1993, Reginald Ernest, aged 90, peacefully after a short illness. Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church, Stratton, Cirencester, at 3 pm on Thursday *March 18th*. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to The Royal British Legion or Toc H c/o L.E. Perry, 15 Hampton Street, Tetbury, Glos.

ASSITER - *Bernard* George, unexpectedly on March 6th at *his home*. His wife, Pam was with him. Funeral at St Peter's Church, Filkins, 1.45pm on Monday March 15th, followed by private cremation. Donations if desired to St Filica's Society, Treasurer John Cambridge, St Peter's House, Filkins, nr. Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

BEHAN - Beatrice, widow of Brendan, peacefully *at home* in her sleep on Tuesday 9th March 1993. Deeply missed by her daughter Blanaid, son Paudge, relatives and friends. Funeral Mass on Monday 15th March at 11am at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Donnybrook, Dublin. House private. Ní bheidh a leithéid ann arís.

BEST - John, on 4th March at *his home in Chiswick. Dearly* loved husband of Laulau and dear father of Stephen and Catherine. Funeral 11.15 am Tuesday 16th March at St Michael's Church, Elmwood Road, Chiswick, W4.

BEWLEY - On *March* 4th, peacefully after a short illness in St Leonard's Hospice, York, Wing Commander John George (Chota) Bewley, aged 78 years, of Hessay. Beloved husband *of* Audrey, dearly loved father of Paul, Clive Gavin and Annabel and a much loved grandpa.

CLAYTON - Thomas *Geoffrey, RIBA*, on March 11th at home. Husband of Sally. No funeral. *A meeting* of friends is to be arranged. Donations to 'York Minster Fund'.

EATON - *On* 11th March, Cynthia, widow of Vice Admiral Sir John Eaton KCB, DSO, DSC, and formerly of Major Gerald Tatchell Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, beloved mother of Jennifer and Sauré and loving grandmother and great-grandmother. *Funeral* Service at St Mary's Church, *Kelvedon, Friday 19th* March at 2.30 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Church Fabric Fund, Reverend D Thornton, The Vicarage, Kelvedon, Colchester, Essex.

FEEHILY - On March 10th, peacefully at home, after a long illness and disability, Brian Feehily M.B.E., Lt. Colonel (retd) Parachute Regiment, darling husband of Vera, father of Michael and Barbara, *father-in-law of* John and Linda and much *loved grandpa of Brian*, Caroline and Louise. Funeral Service at North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden, 2 pm March 17th. Family flowers only, donations payable to The Arthritic Association, c/o Fredk W. Paine, 26 Crown Lane, Morden, Surrey, *SM4 5BL, tel: (081)* 542-1214.

GLANVILLE - Zlata (née *Mlonchinski*). On 11th March 1993 at The Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham. Zlata, dearly loved mother and *friend* to Helen and Mary and widow of Jim, died happily and at peace surrounded by her family and in the thoughts of her *many friends. A service will* be held on Thursday 18th March at 2 pm, Russian Orthodox Church, 67 Ennismore Gardens, SW7. Followed by cremation at West Norwood Cemetery. *Everyone is* welcome to the family home afterwards.

JOYNSON - On March 11th, peacefully, Cecile, wife of the late Lt. Col. Henry Joynson. Funeral at Tarporley R.C. *Church, Cheshire*, on March 19th 12.30 pm. Enquiries (0829) 733808.

MACLAGAN - On 11th March 1993, at the Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice, Farnham, where she received loving care at the *end of her fight against a* painful cancer, bravely borne. Myrtle Ethel Maclagan, M.B.E., a few weeks short of her 82nd birthday. She will be greatly missed by her relatives, her many friends in the W.R.A.C. and elsewhere and the world of womens cricket. Service for family and close friends at the Park Crematorium, Aldershot, on *Thursday* 18th March at 2.30pm. There will be a Memorial Service on Thursday 22nd April at 2.15pm at the R.M.A. Chapel, Sandhurst.

MASON - *On March 11th* 1993, Dom Kevin Mason, aged 77, *Monk of* Ampleforth. Funeral at Ampleforth Abbey, 12 noon Tuesday March 16th.

MORGAN - On March 11th 1993 in The Sue Ryder Home, Nettlebed, Grenville Morgan, Priest, aged 77, *dearly loved husband of Di*, father of Jo and Libby, Daddy Morgan to Sarah, Jill and many others and a much loved grandfather. Funeral at St Mary the Virgin, Ewelme, at 3 pm on Wednesday March 17th. No flowers please. Donations to The Sue Ryder Home, Nettlebed, Oxon.

MORRISON - On 10th March 1993, peacefully after a tremendously brave fight, *Andrew Morrison* aged 32, adored husband of Dom, so dearly loved by Pamie and Ian and his brother Campbell. Private family funeral at St James's, Beauworth, at 3 pm on Monday 15th March. Family flowers only. Service of Thanksgiving in Winchester College Chapel at 11 am on Saturday 27th March, at which all friends welcome.

POPE - On *March* 11th, Nona, wife of the late Rev. Arthur Pope, at St James' Park Nursing Home, Bradpole. Funeral Service 10.30 am on Friday March 19th at St Swithun's Church, Bridport. Family garden flowers only or donations to St Swithun's Church, if wished.

RYAN - On March 10th 1993, aged 79, at home after a long *illness*, Veronica, *formerly of* Boar's Hill, Oxford, and late of the *Foreign* and Commonwealth Office. She will be sadly missed by her many friends and family. Requiem Mass on Thursday March 18th 1993 at 12 noon at St Joseph & St Padarn Church, Salterton Road, London N7, followed by *burial* at 2.15 pm at St Patrick's Cemetery, Leyton, London E11. *Flowers* if wished to Messrs. France, 45 Lambs Conduit Street, London WC2. Enquiries to Caroline Ryan 071-250 1565 in working hours.

SELMAN-SMITH - On March 10th 1993, darling Jim, much loved husband of Peggy, dearest papa to Jill, Caroline and John, grandpa to Alexander, Joshua and Thomas. Our thanks to staff at St Anthony's Hospital who nursed him so devotedly during his brief stay. Funeral Service Thursday 18th March at Kingston-upon-Thames Crematorium at 1pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to Chest, Heart & Stroke Association, London EC1Y 8JJ.

SERRE - On March 10th, peacefully in hospital, Diana Irene, aged 68 years. Beloved *wife of the late Henry James*, loving mother of Christopher and Henrietta, dear mother-in-law of Inge and adored grandmother of Katrina and Natasha. Funeral Service at St Mary's Parish Church, Fordingbridge, on Thursday March 18th at 11 am. Flowers, or donations, *to* Salisbury Leukaemia Fund, c/o John Shering, 15 Provost Street, Fordingbridge, Hampshire, enquiries: (0425) 653019.

STANLEY - Maud, beloved mother of John, died in hospital in Ipswich on March 9th 1993. Funeral and Thanksgiving Service at the Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Aldeburgh, on Wednesday, *March 17th* at 2.30 pm. *Flowers* may be sent to Tony Brown, Funeral Service, Chantry Road, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 1DJ (Tel: 0728-603108).

STEED - John Oliver (Joe), dearest husband of Margaret, loving brother *of Miggs*, Grace and Dan, loved uncle to all his nephews and nieces, passed peacefully away on 11th March.

USHER - Peacefully in her sleep *on Wednesday* 24th February 1993, at Burnfield? Residential Home, Brechin, Wendy, dearly loved wife of the late Andrew, dearest mother of Rosemary and Michael, dear mother-in-law of John and Beata, so loved and admired by her grandchildren Victoria, Angus, Fiona, Alexandra, Angela and Andrew and proud great-grandmother of Harry and Louis. The funeral service and *interment have taken place*.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

BEALE - Norman, March 14th. Three long years so loved so longed for.

MILLAR - Nicola Glen, remembering with love dearest Nicki, died 13th March 1969.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

SKINNER - In loving memory *of Lt. John Skinner*, 19th King George V's Own Lancers, killed in action in Burma on March 13th 1945, and of his brother Lt. Edward Stuart Skinner Coldstream Guards, killed in action at Salerno on September 11th 1943.

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LEGAL NOTICES

EAST MEDICA DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED
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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at 61 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP on Monday 22 March 1993 at 15.00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented.

Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Haines Watts, 61 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8PP not later than 12.00 hrs on 19 March 1993 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

J C Heath and A D Hattingham
Joint Administrative Receivers

هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

WANG ZHEN

Wang Zhen, vice-president of the People's Republic of China, died yesterday aged 85. He was born in Linyang County, Hunan Province in 1908.

WANG Zhen was a sometimes ruthless guardian of revolutionary culture in China. A loyal general and close ally of senior leader Deng Xiaoping, he recognised the necessity of opening economically to the world but was determined to let no flies carrying spiritual pollution through the open door.

Wang was one of the small group of veteran revolutionaries who, following the Tiananmen Square, massacre of 1989 put their massed weight behind Deng Xiaoping's decision to use lethal force against peaceful demonstrators in central Peking. He continued to carry out his official duties until he was hospitalised in October 1990, occasionally appearing in peasant garb, a long padded blue cotton coat with fur at the collar, always leaning on a stick.

Wang Zhen had impeccable revolutionary credentials. Born, like Chairman Mao, in Hunan Province, he had only three years of formal education and then went to work on the railways. When the authorities put out a warrant for his arrest, he fled and, at the age of 19, joined one of the Communist guerrilla groups. Seven years later he participated in the Long March of 1934-35.

During the civil war against the Kuomintang, he served in the Red Army as a detachment commander and as a political commissar. In 1941, he led a famous Red Army project to reclaim arid wasteland at Nanniwan in northern China so the troops could feed themselves. Nanniwan was to become a byword of socialist self-reliance.

As his military career flourished during the next few years, Wang won many decorations. In 1950, he was appointed political commissar of the Xinjiang military area, ruthlessly imposing the Communist party authority over minority groups. Under his direction extensive areas of arid land were reclaimed and developed as state farms. He directed the introduction of Han Chinese settlers into the pre-dominantly Muslim region.



Visiting the troops: Wang Zhen visiting frontier forces at Guangxi in 1979

In 1954 he became deputy chief of the People's Liberation Army General Staff with the rank of general. Two years later he was made a member of the Communist party central committee.

Wang was elected a deputy to the legislature of China's northeastern Heilongjiang Province in 1959 and continued his rise through the ranks of the party in the 1960s. In 1965 he became minister of agriculture and land reclamation. Although subjected to criticism by radical elements during the turbulence of the Cultural Revolution he survived in office, emerging ten years later as a member of the politburo and serving, from 1975 to 1980, as vice-premier of the state council.

Five years later, as a younger leadership group emerged, Wang retired from the politburo and central committee. Then, as the pro-democracy movement gained strength, he was one the elderly conservatives who returned to the political arena in a determined effort to retain orthodox tenets of Chinese Marxism.

Appalled by what he saw as an unacceptable degree of liberalisation during the pro-democracy period, Wang Zhen did not limit himself to military concerns but intervened in cultural and artistic affairs. In 1988 he criticised fiercely a television series which questioned some of the thinking behind China's patriotic fervour and which suggested that China's feudal past had continued into the present. He was furious when a pop idol, Cui Jian, included in his irreverent act a rock version of "Nanniwan", a revolutionary song. Cui Jian continued to sing it, apparently in order to annoy Wang Zhen, even though it had been banned from his programme.

Wang's time in the north-western region of Xinjiang was remembered with something approaching hatred by the mostly Muslim population there. They spoke of Wang Zhen masterminding a massacre of local leaders. Such was his reputation for violence and intolerance that a rumour spread around Peking that he had personally commanded the troops on the night of the Tiananmen Square massacre on June 4, 1989. The Chinese government has never clarified which officers took part in the massacre but many said afterwards that Wang was identified hobbling on his walking stick while supervising the clearing of the square.

In contrast to such acts of intolerance, Wang Zhen was capable of unexpected, and even inappropriate, acts of generosity and sudden affection.

A school in China's north-east was surprised when, after it had sent a group of children to perform in Peking, Wang sent an official car to bring them to his home three times. Official accounts of the visit said that he watched their performance repeatedly "with tears in his eyes". He gave them a Japanese-made television and a quartz clock, and then commandeered two military aeroplanes to take the children, their teacher, and himself from Peking's military airport to a remote border region on a sight-seeing trip. After chaperoning the children he wrote a calligraphic inscription to the school and went back home to Peking.

SIR COLIN ALLAN

Sir Colin Allan, KCMG, OBE, colonial administrator, died on March 5 aged 71. He was born in New Zealand on October 23, 1921.



SIR COLIN ALLAN was one of three recruits to the Overseas Service from one of the "old colonies" who became governors of the "new colonies" in the age of decolonisation. (The other two were Lord Grey and Sir Richard Luyt.) He took an MA in history and politics at Canterbury New University in New Zealand and in 1945 started out in the colonial service as an administrative cadet in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

In 1950 he was appointed district commissioner on the island of Malaita, where, through the development of local government, the Solomons administration was coming to terms with the "Marching Rule" movement. Mixed elements in "Marching Rule" derived from myth, frustration and a sense of injustice, and some of them could be said to foreshadow later nationalist politics. Subsequently at Cambridge, while on the Administrative Service Second Devonshire Course, Allan took a university diploma in social anthropology, presenting as his thesis a study of "Marching Rule". It was later printed in abbreviated form in *Corona*, and was widely read and cited by anthropologists, one of whom referred to it as having "described with exemplary precision the history of a Melanesian Millenarian movement."

Allan was later Lands Commissioner in the Solomons from 1953 to 1956 and gave an account of his enquiries into land tenure in two elegant little volumes published by the Nag's Head Press of Christchurch, New Zealand.

In 1959 he was posted as assistant British Resident Commissioner to the Anglo-French Condominium of the New Hebrides, now Vanuatu, where he was to spend nearly 14 years, becoming Commissioner in 1966. The Condominium, a product of the pre-1914 *entente cordiale*, had persisted since 1906 because periodic consideration of its future on the British side from the 1920s onwards never reached any acceptable conclusion. In 1950 the Australian government offered to take over the British responsibility, but the offer was withdrawn in 1952. By the time Allan arrived as assistant British Resident in 1959 the neglect of development in welfare, the deficiencies of the Protocol and the legal codes, and the impossibility of continuing to do nothing had been brought home to the United Kingdom government and a more active policy approved.

In addition to his resourcefulness and drive, Allan's experience of what was being done in the Solomons and of land problems were to prove most useful. His period as British Resident Commissioner from 1966 until 1973 was a difficult one. In London the Colonial Office was gradually losing its identity on merger into a Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and — for a successful outcome to the renewed British application for entry to the EC — French agreement was a prerequisite. In the Condominium Allan had to deal with the beginnings of stronger pressure from Melanesians for political advance and for changes in the antiquated and discriminatory Protocol.

Allan understood and sympathised with Melanesian grievances and aspirations, and his special knowledge of land problems, which re-emerged as a crucial issue at this time, enabled him to seek equitable solutions.

In 1973 Allan was appointed Governor of the Seychelles, where his task was facilitated when both major parties were persuaded independence was the right solution. When the Seychelles became independent, he was asked to return to the British Solomons and see it through its constitutional conferences to independence in 1978.

On retirement Colin Allan involved himself in research and teaching: as a visiting fellow in the Research School of Pacific Studies at the Australian National University and as a visiting lecturer at the universities of Auckland, Otago and New South Wales. He also developed his interest in 20th-century British art, in particular the work of Cedric Morris and others associated with the East Anglia School of Painting and Drawing.

In 1955 he married Betty Dorothy Evans, of Queensland, who survives him with their three sons.

PATRICIA LAWRENCE

Patricia Lawrence, actress, died of cancer on March 7 aged 67. She was born in Andover, Hampshire, on November 19, 1925.

ALTHOUGH never a box-office star, Patricia Lawrence was a solid supporting player whose acting career spanned over 40 years. Despite winning the Bancroft Gold Medal at RADA, she had an uphill struggle in her early years in the profession, appearing as a young actress mainly in provincial repertory. After she married in 1947 and began to have children, she left the stage in order to concentrate on bringing up her family.

Her husband was the publisher and impresario, Greville Poke, first secretary and then chairman of the English Stage Company, and it was through him that she returned to the boards in the late 1950s. He was then the chairman of the Leatherhead (later the Thorndike) Theatre in Surrey and, starting out with Desdemona, she began playing a number of leading roles there. Subsequent West End appearances included one at the Royal Court in John Osborne's *West of Suez* in 1971, which later transferred to the Cambridge Theatre, and in a 1966 production at the Comedy entitled *Love by Appointment*, in which she briskly played the boss of a marriage bureau. By now into her forties, it was clear, however, that West End stardom had passed her by. Lawrence shrewdly decided that her future lay on the small screen and down the years she was to turn in a succession of sensitive performances — usually of harassed middle-aged, middle-class women — in a variety of television productions. Especially notable was her portrayal of a respectable Tunbridge Wells wife grappling with the consequences of her husband's heart attack in Richard Bates's 13-part LWT serial, *Intimate Strangers* in 1974. Recently she was to be seen as a nun in the highly successful BBC drama series, *Tenko*.

She also played a number of cameo parts in films, including appearances in two Merchant/Ivory productions, *A Room with a View* and *Howard's End*. Her last work was in a BBC World Service version of Robert Holman's *Across Oka*. Lawrence is survived by her husband and two sons.

ROBIN SMYTH



Robin Smyth, former foreign correspondent for the *Daily Mail* in Paris and Washington and later Paris correspondent for *The Observer*, died on March 11 aged 66. He was born on December 5, 1926.

FEW British journalists who have worked in Paris will be remembered with such affection as Robin Smyth. A craftsman in his own way with words — he normally had second and even third thoughts about any copy he put over — he may have been a lucid rather than a stylish writer. But, living at a time in which journalists often come under criticism for abrasive behaviour, he often seemed to belong to another, and more civilised, age. A man of grace and impeccable manners, he made no enemies.

The son of Brigadier Sir John Smyth, VC, MP, Robin Smyth — by no means a military looking figure, despite having served in the Rifle Brigade — was born in New Delhi and spent his first three years there. Educated at Ampleforth College and Trinity College, Oxford (to which he won a history scholarship), he began his career as a journalist with the *Derby Evening Telegraph*. Later he was to spend 20 years with the *Daily Mail*. It was in the 1960s that he became renowned as the *Daily Mail* bureau chief in Paris. It was a turbulent decade with France involved in a war in Algeria, unrest at home and the riots and near-revolution of 1968 — a heavy workload to which he added extra duties as president of the Anglo-American Press Association in 1966. Later Smyth was posted to Washington and left there, in 1974, to join *The Observer* back in Paris. Here he felt most at home and working for a weekly paper gave him the chance to do what he liked best: deep research — he always preferred cultural themes to political ones — uninterrupted by reminders from London about deadlines.

No one ever saw Robin Smyth angry or in a panic. Nor was he ever accused of playing with facts. There was one exception. The *Daily Mail* in London once asked the Paris office to supply snow-depth readings from the principal French ski resorts. This would have meant, at the end of a hard day, ringing up a dozen or more ski stations and spending a few minutes with each to check the state of the local snowflakes. Smyth occasionally dealt with this by putting a tape-measure up to his ear and reading off the nearest numbers. No reader ever complained.

He had been ill for two years with heart trouble. Yet he wrote his last article for *The Observer* only two weeks ago. He leaves a widow and a son.

ARCHBISHOP GEORGE BROWNE

Archbishop George D. Browne, the first native-born Bishop of Liberia who rose to lead the Episcopal communities in six West African countries, died in hospital at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on February 14 aged 59. He was born in 1933.



GEORGE BROWNE was not a man to run away from trouble or to count the cost of his actions. When other religious leaders fled Liberia during the civil war that broke out after the assassination of President Samuel Doe in 1990, he stayed on.

He opened seven churches to help the victims of the war, and tried to negotiate a peace settlement among leaders of the various warring factions.

He was no stranger to violence. His own consecration as bishop in 1970, at the age of 36 and only seven years after his ordination, followed the assassination of his predecessor; and, as a member of a commission that proposed democratic changes to Liberia's constitution which were strongly opposed by President Doe, he was the recipient of numerous death threats.

Browne came from the humblest beginnings.

As a boy he supported his family by selling biscuits for a penny apiece and paddling a canoe upriver to collect firewood.

He also had a difficult background: one grandfather was an Episcopal priest, the other a high priest in one of the local animist religions.

His mother spirited him away from her husband's family so that he could be brought up as a Christian.

After graduating from Cuttington College in Liberia, Browne went to the United States where he received a master's degree from the Virginia Theological Seminary.

In 1982 the bishops of West Africa elected him Archbishop for Liberia, Guinea, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Ghana and Cameroon.

George Browne is survived by Agnes, his wife of more than 30 years, five sons and two daughters.

PERSONAL COLUMN

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001486 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
NB INTERNATIONAL PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 16th February 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company in the sum of £1,926,000.
AND NOTICE BE FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 24th day of March 1993.
ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 12th day of March 1993.
Alsop Wilkinson of 11 St James's Square, Manchester M2 6DR. Ref: AH/JM/2744c Solicitors for the above-named Company.

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TRUSTEE ACTS

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FRY, CYRIL, 103a Norwood Road, Herne Hill, London SE24 died 19th November 1992: Particulars to Leigh Williams, Bradford Chambers, Elizabeth Road, Brighton, BN1 1HY before 21st May 1993.

MAHONEY, ROBERT WILLIAM of 45 Fairlie Road, Hackbridge, London SM5 3JG died on 26th December 1992: Particulars to Bryan O'Connor & Co. Solicitors of 18-20 Bedford Street, London WC2E 9HP before 14th May 1993.

OPEN, EDGAR RAILEY of 149 Mansfield Road, Wrightsbridge, Wiltshire Died 27th November 1992 Particulars to Middleton & Upsall, 2 North Parade, Frome, Somerset, BA11 1AT before 14th May 1993.

PRICE, EDWARD JOHN, 9 Dagnall Street, Bagdon, Dyfed. SA19 8EG. Died 3rd April 1992. Particulars to BELVEDERES SOLICITORS, 61, Carey Street, London WC2A 2JG (Ref:T/PRO) before 20th May 1993.

STEPHENS, DAVID MAIR LLEWELLY of 7 Monkdale Close, Swindon, Surrey died on 16th January 1992. Particulars to Charles Russell Solicitors of Hale Court, Lincoln's Inn London WC2A 3UL before 14th day of May 1993.

The Estate of the late IAN RAMSAY BROWN who died on 27th February 1992: Searching for next of kin of issue to William Brown and his wife Helen Cunningham, from Edinburgh.
Elizabeth Brown born 1854.
Margaret Brown born 1856.
John Chalmers Brown born 1857. David Cowan Brown born 1874. Searching for James Hunter Spence Wigton born 1934 and Ian Brown Wigton born 1955, sons of James Carruthers Wigton and his wife Nora Helen Hole. Searching for Anstruther Mary Morren, born 1908, daughter of Robert Cornell Morren and her wife Margaret Catherine Hunter Hall.
Particulars to Messrs Bannatyne Phillip & Ross, W.S., 22 Rutland Street, Edin. Edinburgh, EH1 2PS before 14th May 1993.

TRUSTEE ACTS

WATERMAN, LIONEL DAVID of Pink Cottage, Newton Hall Drive, Parsonage Downs, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 2AT died on 14th November 1992: Particulars to Dudley-Cooke Howe & Rake Solicitors of 66 London Wall, London EC2M 5TU before 14th May 1993.

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BROADCAST PLAY "MACBETH"

Presented for Broadcasting by Barbara Burnham

Duncan, King of Scotland	Ben Webster
Malcolm	Cecil Ramage
Donalbain	Jack Carlton
Macbeth	Ralph Richardson
Banquo	Charles Carson
Macduff	John Laurie
Lennox	Douglas Burridge
Ross	Carleton Hobbs
Lady Macbeth	Margita Hunt

Though one might not have expected it, *Macbeth* seems to be well suited for presentation as an opera of disembodied voices. It is easily removed into an insubstantial sphere of no particular place or time; the supernatural episodes are more thrilling when heard than seen, and some of the most dramatic moments, like the coming of Birnam Wood to Dunsinane, were actually intended for the ear and not for the eye. And the B.B.C.'s production on Sunday afternoon emphasized the remote, the ghostly, and the supernatural aspect of the tragedy. The scenes were ingeniously connected by Mr. Victory Hely-Hutchinson's music, which provided at once punctuation and ornament to the production and combined with the descriptive noises to make them impressive rather than realistic.

Presumably in order to keep the consistency of mood, which may easily be lost in a recitation of the play, the porter's conversation and the curious scene in which Malcolm pretends to be a villain were omitted. But the abbreviation was always reasonably done and did no great harm, for the tragedy emerged as a coherent and uninterrupted poem.

Mr. Ralph Richardson took the part of Macbeth and made his deep and resonant voice singularly impressive. It was not a Macbeth who displayed great variety of intricacy and character, but in the circumstances that would hardly have been possible. And though Macbeth's tendency to hysteria was almost lost, Mr. Richardson kept him consistently as a heroic figure, and he spoke with great feeling. Miss Hunt's Lady Macbeth was a simpler performance, but she was always an adequate companion to Mr. Richardson.

We should have liked to hear the witches attempt something other than the conventional accents of shrill horror which one has heard so often, but within the limits of this prescribed form, and with the help of music and other sounds, their scenes were persuasive enough. Mr. Holloway, as the doctor, had a truly professional intonation and yet he contrived not to descend to pure realism.

ON THIS DAY

March 13 1933

With Ralph Richardson as Macbeth and Margita Hunt as his wife this radio production would have been enjoyed by many listeners.

THE TIMES TODAY SATURDAY MARCH 13 1993

NEWS

Bomb attacks kill 200 in Bombay

■ At least 200 people were killed and more than 1,100 injured when a chain of car bombs exploded across Bombay. Thirteen explosions damaged a series of key buildings.

One minister blamed an "international conspiracy", often a code phrase for Pakistan, and the prime minister declared a nationwide security emergency, rushing troops and bomb disposal teams to the city .....Page 1

BBC governors fail to support Birt

■ More than 60 Labour MPs called for the resignation of John Birt, director-general of the BBC, in the wake of disclosures about his tax arrangements. A majority of the corporation's governors, approached by *The Times*, failed to pledge their support .....Pages 1, 2

Judge powerless

The home secretary called for tougher sentences for sex crimes as a judge admitted he was powerless to give a suitable sentence to a 14-year-old boy who had admitted taking part in a rape ..... Page 1

Budget outlook

Next week's Budget is expected to reduce the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement without raising taxes by more than £2 billion. Big increases are likely to be confined to petrol and tobacco ..... Page 1

Yeltsin storms out

President Yeltsin, storming out of the chamber for second successive day, abandoned his search for a power-sharing agreement with the Russian Congress of Peoples Deputies, which rejected his appeal to salvage the truce reached in December ..... Page 1

Tory infighting

The government admitted it had a "tactical problem" in trying to push the Maastricht bill through the Commons as Tory infighting over the treaty became almost farcical ..... Page 2

Hurd's royal plea

Douglas Hurd, deploring the destructive power of the media across a broad swath of the nation's life, said the Royal family deserved a period of calm to help it reassert the tradition of public service ..... Home

Blockade rejected

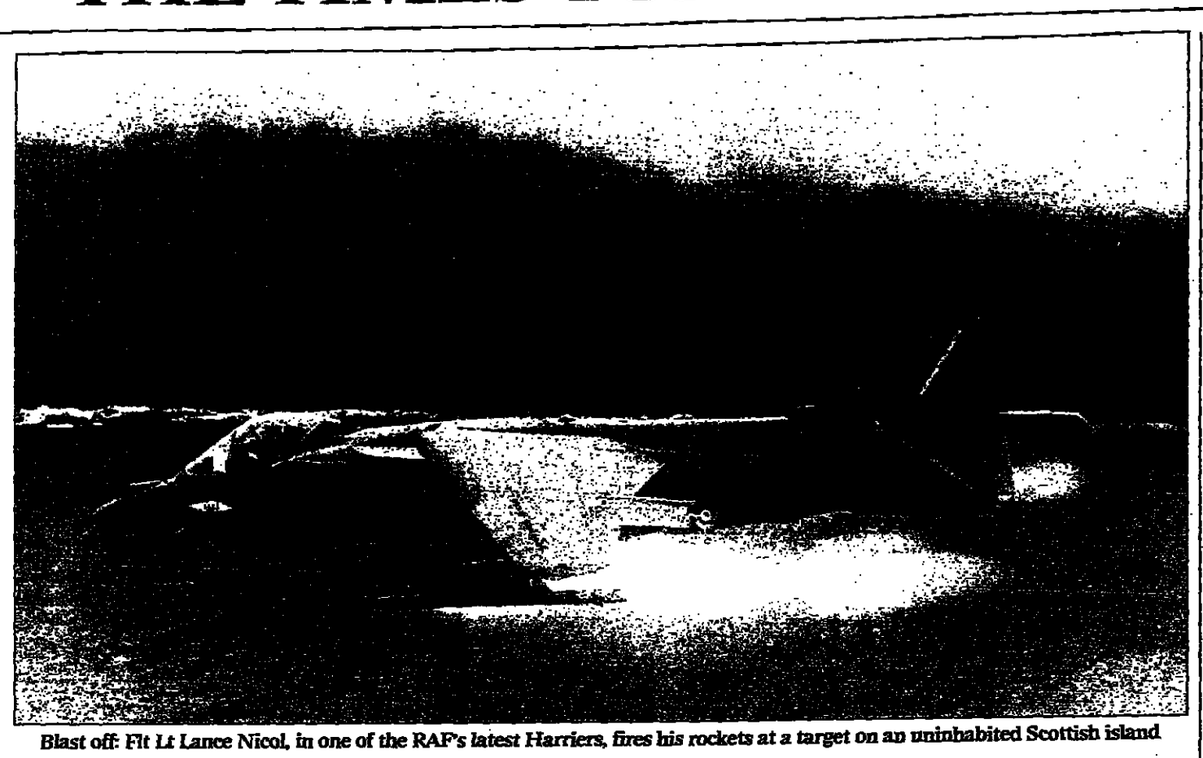
Leaders of 6,000 English and Welsh fishermen, meeting at Grimsby, pulled back from a national blockade of foreign imports to Britain's fish markets, opting for negotiations with European fishermen and a lobby of EC ministers ..... Home

Patten blames China

Chris Patten has published his long-delayed democratic reform bill for Hong Kong, blaming China for failing to resolve differences which have prevented Sino-British talks on the constitutional future of the colony. It ends weeks of brinkmanship .....Overseas

Hatton: 'Two grotty bits of land'

■ Derek Hatton, cleared of charges of defrauding Liverpool council, said questions had to be asked about why the charges were brought. He said the case had been presented as "the biggest fraud trial since Poulson. It then came down to two grotty bits of land." .....Pages 1, 3



Blast off: Flt Lt Lance Nicol, in one of the RAF's latest Harriers, fires his rockets at a target on an uninhabited Scottish island

BUSINESS

Ready for take-off: The Clinton administration appeared ready to clear BA's proposed $300m investment in USAir, despite opposition ..... Page 21

Markets: Shares fell sharply as investors took the opportunity to realise profits ahead of the Budget and the FT-SE 100 index closed down 37.5 at 2,915.9. The pound closed unchanged against the dollar at $1.4345 and up .38 pfennigs at DM2.3887 ..... Page 24

SPORT

Rugby: Wales have dropped Mike Rayer, Mike Hall and Robert Jones from their back division against France. They are replaced by Tony Clement, Nigel Davies and Rupert Moon ..... Page 39

Cricket: England have left out Phillip DeFreitas for the Test match with Sri Lanka. Michael Atherton returns to open ..... Page 36

NEWS

A headmaster's life: "There was something about this way of living that appealed to me. It must have been the element of French farce." Starting today, a three-part serialisation of John Rae's memories of Westminster ..... Page 1

Holidays: It was no dream. I looked like Quasimodo after a round with Frank Bruno. "Ah, *Los Mosquitos*," exclaimed the Minorca holiday rep ..... Page 2

In deep water: What is it that attracts 70,000 people to dive in British waters? The reasons are diverse ..... Page 10

Selling your house: The odd stick of good furniture conveys a better atmosphere than a mass of junk. It deflects the eye from defective architecture ..... Page 12

A feast of festival talent: A month by month guide to the best of Britain's arts and culture this summer ..... Page 13

Two singers, two cultures: Ute Lemper is the svelte cabaret artist who has inspired glowing comparisons with Marlene Dietrich and Edith Piaf. Ben Heppner is the young Canadian tenor who is taking the epic world of Wagnerian opera by storm. Both are performing in London next week; both are profiled today .....Weekend 14

Rattling through: Simon Rattle's giant, ten-year "Towards the Millennium" concert series in Birmingham, London and Cardiff has reached the music of the 1920s — and with it the delightful opera on which Ravel and Colette collaborated: *L'Enfant et les sortilèges* .....Weekend 14

Enjoying a good read: A recent recording from the Chamber Orchestra of Europe delves into an intriguing area in the history of wind music. The oboe was first used in Venice, at the opera, in 1692 .....Weekend 14

TV LISTINGS

A feature-length documentary produced and narrated by the actor Robert Redford highlights an alleged miscarriage of justice among the American Indians. *Fine Cut: Incident at Oglala* (BBC2, today, 7.50pm) .....Weekend 16

Enchanted April, the BBC film which has been nominated for three Oscars, is shown again tomorrow (BBC2, 9.40pm). Miranda Richardson and Joan Plowright star in the tale of four women escaping to an Italian castle .....Weekend 17

OPINION

Birt's future

It is right that as a public official John Birt be held to higher personal standards than one who answers also to shareholders and markets. It is not right that his image be constantly compared to the BBC's brooding busts of Lord Reith.

Red alert over Korea

North Korea is militarily strong but close to economic collapse. Economic sanctions could well be effective. But if they do not work, military strikes will have to be considered. After Iraq, this is the first test of wills with rogue nuclear regimes. It must succeed.

Testing the law

Because they are peculiarly vulnerable to sabotage, the national curriculum tests must be defended all the more vigorously. The legal obligations of teachers and heads to administer them are quite clear.

Matthew Parris

The impression is of a gang of ministers storming a fusty mansion, throwing open cupboards, sweeping cobwebs away and letting in the light. Except that there's one room that they never touch. Their own

Alexander Chancellor

Outside Islam, America is possibly the world's most God-fearing nation; and, as in some Islamic countries, which breed religious fanatics so demented that they will even try to blow up the World Trade Centre, religion in America, at least in its fundamentalist manifestions, takes many weird forms

Simon Jenkins

Was it not incongruous: a Renaissance painting hung in a Gothic chapel, blessed by a Teutonic lecturer and a high Anglican ritual? But this was a true Renaissance synthesis

LETTERS

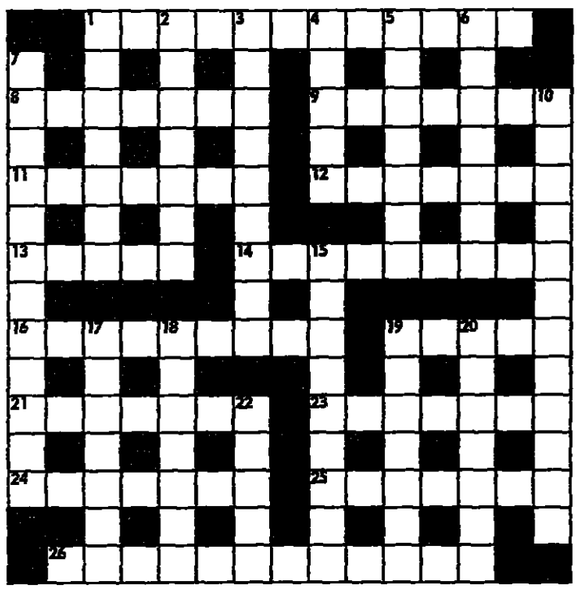
The debate continues over links between violence on the screen and in real life.

Killing to defend the right to life is indefensible. Wednesday's murder of Dr David Gunn outside an abortion clinic demands condemnation .....USA Today

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,177

PARKER DUOFOLD *A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.*

Name/Address.....



ACROSS

1 Diocese in bed, perhaps hence non-observance (12).
8 Speaker Pat, we hear? (7)
9 Road-user puts his foot in it – *Head of Thames police turns out* (3-4).
11 Unaffected condition of some Sinai veterans (7).
12 Sharp bend that may hold a shock? (7)
13 Civic Centre. Back Lane is for sale (5)
14 Concerned with function of hooter in near-ancient works (9).
16 Paid player has RU team in trouble (9)
19 Beethoven's fifth (the full version) (5)
21 I am beyond freezing point – thick coat put on (7)
23 Papers distributed around hospital, possibly (7).
24 Elevator trouble, for example (7).
25 New style re papal robes? (7).
26 House-trained and partially lettered (4-8)

DOWN

1 Lexicon without a line for speech (7)
2 Literary family assemble happily (7)
3 Lighter propeller for canal use (5-4).
4 Day-long abandon? (5).
5 Heavy, like the air at Stoke Poges? (7).
6 Sea-nymph's topical, tropical rendering (7)
7 Gear-changing with kicks? (12).
10 P-pipe? (5-7)
15 If climbing, take over from base of chimney (9)
17 Pulse in primate is calm (7).
18 Weapon tipped for use in S Africa (7).
19 A vice, we hear, of a Roman general (7).
20 Antipodean shrub that needs a pot? (3-4)
22 Ruminant? Well, an ugly thing with no tail! (5).

Concise Crossword, Weekend section, page 18

Solution to Puzzle No 19,171

B	U	C	K	S	K	I	N	M	E	R	C	I	A	
A	■	O	■	P	■	N	S	■	M	■	R	■	T	
L	A	R	G	E	■	G	A	O	L	B	R	E	A	K
L	■	K	■	L	■	R	■	R	■	A	■	I	■	
I	N	S	O	L	V	E	N	T	■	A	M	M	A	N
S	■	C	■	■	S	■	I	■	C	■	■	S	■	
T	U	R	N	I	P	S	■	E	N	E	R	G	Y	
A	■	E	■	N	■	■	R	■	R	■	C	■		
■	T	W	I	T	C	H	■	P	A	Y	R	O	L	L
R	■	E	■	E	■	■	E	■	■	U	■	A	■	
U	N	P	E	G	■	C	O	N	S	T	A	N	C	Y
M	■	O	■	R	T	■	A	■	A	■	D	■	M	
P	A	N	T	A	L	O	O	N	■	B	A	N	J	O
■	G	■	T	■	R	■	C	■	L	■	U	■	R	
D	O	R	E	D	■	R	E	S	E	T	T	L	E	

Solution to Puzzle No 19,176

M	O	P	I	S	H	■	J	O	H	N	P	E	E	L
A	■	U	■	T	■	V	■	U	■	Y	■	X	■	I
R	E	C	U	R	R	E	N	T	■	L	A	T	I	N
O	■	C	■	A	■	S	■	O	■	O	■	R	■	N
Q	U	I	N	T	E	T	■	F	A	N	F	A	R	E
U	■	N	■	A	■	E	■	O	■	C	■	T	■	
I	C	I	N	G	■	D	Y	N	A	M	I	T	E	
N	■	■	E	■	I	■	E	■	A	■	■	A	■	
■	T	E	R	M	I	N	U	S	■	K	N	O	W	N
L	■	N	■	T	■	O	■	E	■	R	■	G	■	
I	N	V	O	I	C	E	■	E	X	A	M	P	L	E
T	■	E	■	O	■	R	■	P	■	B	■	H	■	S
T	A	L	O	N	■	E	X	T	R	O	V	E	R	T
E	■	O	■	I	■	S	■	H	■	O	■	A	■	R
R	A	P	A	C	I	T	Y	■	S	K	I	N	N	Y

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The winners of last Saturday's competition are: M Asher, Hillbury Road, London; R Clayton, Rochdale Road, High Crompton, Shaw, Oldham, Lancs; J Pritchard, Albany Road, Old Windsor, Berks; P Lane, Hawthylands Road, Hailsham, E Sussex; K F Price, Eastern Road, London.

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Northern Ireland and western Scotland will become cloudy with outbreaks of rain in the afternoon and evening. The rest of Scotland will be mostly dry with some brightness. A grey start for much of England and Wales but some sunshine likely during the day, especially in parts sheltered from the southerly breeze. Later in the evening patchy rain will spread into the western regions. Outlook: mild with rain at times, especially in the north and west.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	s	Madrid	11	52	f
Alcudia	15	59	f	Majorca	16	61	f
Alex'dria	15	59	s	Malaga	15	59	c
Algiers	18	64	f	Malta	13	55	f
Amst'dm	16	59	s	Melb'rne	16	64	s
Athens	15	59	f	Miami*	28	82	s
Bahrain	27	81	s	Milan	12	54	f
Bangkok	33	91	s	Montreal*	-3	27	f
Barbados*	29	84	s	Moscow	-9	16	sn
Barcelna	13	55	f	Munich	11	52	s
Beirut	14	57	s	Nairobi	27	81	f
Belgrade	10	50	f	Naples	15	59	f
Berlin	7	45	f	N Delhi	25	77	f
Bermuda*	22	72	f	N York*	3	37	s
Biarritz	17	63	s	Nice	14	57	f
Borde'x	16	61	s	Oslo	2	36	s
Brussels	16	61	s	Paris	14	57	s
Budapst	4	39	c	Peking	12	54	s
B Aires*	31	88	s	Perth	24	75	s
Cairo	17	63	s	Prague	5	41	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Reykjavik	7	45	r
Chicago*	-1	30	sn	Rhodes	14	57	s
Ch'church	15	59	c	Rio de J	30	86	f
Cologne	15	59	s	Riyadh	23	73	s
C'phagn	5	41	f	Rome	13	55	s
Corfu	15	59	s	Salzburg	9	48	s
Dublin	13	55	f	S Frisco*	16	61	c
Dubrovnik	14	57	s	Santiago*	28	82	s
Faro	16	61	r	S Paulo*	25	77	c
Florence	13	55	f	Seoul	11	52	f
Frankfurt	12	54	s	Sing'por	24	75	t
Funchal	18	64	r	Stkholm	3	37	s
Geneva	11	52	s	Strasb'rg	15	59	s
Gibraltar	15	59	c	Sydney	22	72	f
Helsinki	-7	19	c	Tangier	18	64	f
Hong K	21	70	f	Tel Aviv	16	61	c
Innsbrck	11	52	s	Tenerife	21	70	s
Istanbul	8	46	f	Tokyo	3	37	r
Jeddah	29	84	s	Toronto*	-4	25	s
Jo'burg*	25	77	s	Tunis	16	61	f
Karachi	29	84	s	Valencia	14	57	f
L Palmas	20	68	s	Vanc'ver*	10	50	s
La Toquet	16	61	s	Venice	9	48	s
Lisbon	13	55	r	Vienna	1	34	fg
Locarno	12	54	s	Warsaw	4	39	s
London	15	59	s	Wash'ton*	7	45	f
L Angels*	18	64	s	Wel'ton	15	59	r
Luxembg	11	52	s	Zurich	10	50	f
Luxor	22	72	s				

* denotes figures are latest available

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 6.02 pm to 6.19 am
Bristol 5.14 pm to 6.29 am
Edinburgh 6.12 pm to 6.34 am
Manchester 6.09 pm to 6.29 am
Penzance 6.24 pm to 6.40 am

TODAY

Sun rises: 6.19 am — Sun sets: 6.02 pm
Moon rises 8.29 am — Moon sets 12.06 pm

Last Quarter March 15

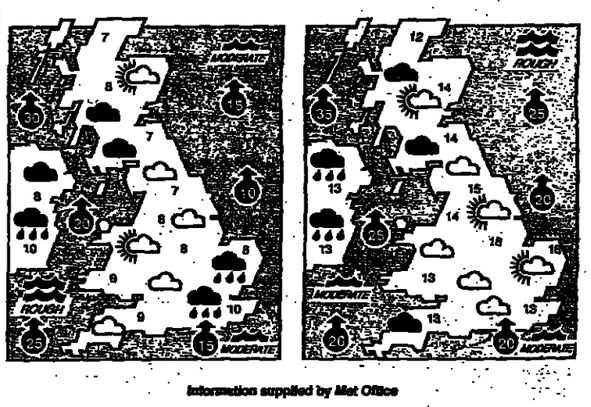
London 6.04 pm to 6.27 am
Bristol 6.13 pm to 6.24
Edinburgh 6.14 pm to 6.31 am
Manchester 6.11 pm to 6.26 am
Penzance 6.25 pm to 6.38 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6.14 am — Sun sets: 6.04 pm
Moon rises 9.14 am — Moon sets 1.13 pm

UK TOWNS

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.1	0.08	10	50	cloudy
Anglesey	3.8	0.02	12	54	bright
Ardmore	4.5	0.08	7	45	sunny
Belfast	0.3	0.13	11	52	rain
Birmingham	4.9	-	13	55	sunny
Bognor Regis	7.7	-	11	52	sunny
Bournemouth	8.2	-	11	52	sunny
Bristol	6.2	-	15	59	sunny
Buxton	3.7	0.07	11	52	fog
Cardiff	8.0	-	13	55	sunny
Clacton	8.6	-	10	50	sunny
Cromer	-	0.01	13	55	bright
Douglas	-	0.15	8	46	cloudy
Edinburgh	-	0.11	10	50	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.13	9	48	cloudy
Exmouth	8.9	-	11	52	sunny
Falmouth	4.9	-	12	54	sunny
Follestone	8.8	-	11	52	sunny
Glasgow	-	0.15	10	50	drizzle
Guernsey	9.3	-	14	57	sunny
Hastings	7.3	-	10	50	sunny
Hunstanton	6.7	-	12	54	sunny
Jersey	9.5	-	15	59	sunny
Kinloss	2.2	0.02	10	50	bright
Leeds	2.7	0.06	13	55	bright
Lerwick	-	0.01	5	41	sleet
Littlehampton	8.9	-	12	54	sunny
Liverpool	3.8	0.08	12	54	sunny
London	8.4	-	15	59	sunny
Lowestoft	7.3	0.01	10	50	sunny
Margate	-	-	12	54	sunny
Minehead	8.9	-	15	59	sunny
Morecambe	3.8	0.04	13	55	bright
Newcastle	-	0.05	6	43	cloudy
Newquay	4.5	-	13	55	bright
Nottingham	3.9	0.01	13	55	sunny
Penzance	5.5	-	13	55	sunny
Plymouth	8.2	-	13	55	sunny
Poole	4.7	-	12	54	bright
Prestwick	-	0.21	10	50	rain
Sandown	7.5	-	11	52	sunny
Scarborough	0.3	0.02	9	48	fog
Scilly Isles	6.3	-	13	55	sunny
Shanklin	7.9	-	11	52	sunny
Southend	9.0	-	13	55	sunny
Southsea	7.5	-	11	52	sunny
Stornoway	-	0.07	9	48	drizzle
Swanage	8.4	-	10	50	sunny
Teignmouth	7.9	-	10	50	sunny
Tiree	1.0	0.17	10	50	rain
Torquay	8.4	-	12	54	sunny
Weymouth	8.9	-	11	52	sunny
Wick	0.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Worthing	7.0	-	9	48	sunny



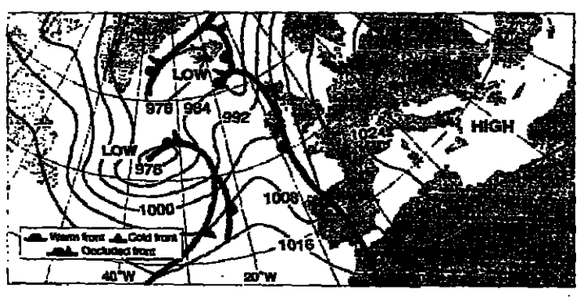
Information supplied by Met Office

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.13	1.93
Austria Sch	17.80	16.30
Belgium Fr	52.15	47.75
Canada $	1.903	1.743
Denmark Kr	9.75	8.95
Finland Mkk	9.25	8.45
France Fr	8.59	7.89
Germany Dm	2.52	2.32
Greece Dr	340.00	315.00
Hong Kong $	11.75	10.75
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Italy Lira	2380.00	2245.00
Japan Yen	186.00	167.00
Netherlands Gld	2.84	2.61
Norway Kr	10.72	9.92
Portugal Esc	232.00	214.00
South Africa Rd	5.40	4.70
Spain Pta	178.09	163.09
Sweden Kr	11.70	10.90
Switzerland Fr	2.31	2.13
Turkey Lira	14000.0	13000.0
USA $	1.525	1.40

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

MID-DAY SYNOPTIC CHART



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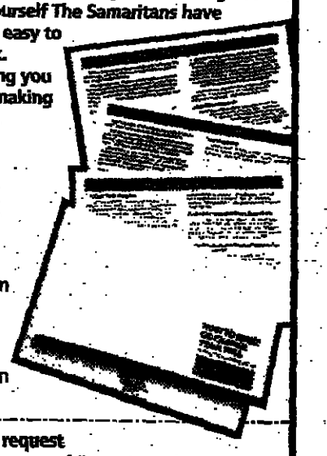
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PROFILE 22

The workaholic northerner worth £100m



FOOTBALL 38

Is there room at the top for Ron Atkinson?



RUGBY 39

Rob Andrew on the fight for a Lions' spot

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES Page 35

THE TIMES 2

SATURDAY MARCH 13 1993

WEEKEND MONEY

SELL OUT



Business expansion scheme issues are selling out within hours, fuelled by fears that loanback could be outlawed next week
Page 25

GROUND RULES

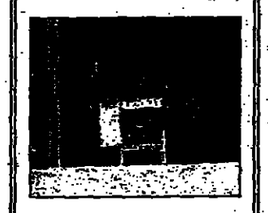
Thousands of leaseholders paying high ground rents are waiting for a crucial debate in the Lords
Page 31

IN BOND



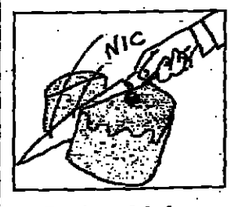
Donna O'Shea has sent out thousands of application forms for guaranteed income bonds
Page 26

SAYE-SO



Save As You Earn schemes from building societies paying tax-free interest have found a new lease of life
Page 27

DOWNSIDE



Problems claiming benefits and expenses could detract from the tax advantage of setting up a one-man company
Letters, page 32

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4345 (same)
German mark ..2.3887 (+0.0036)
Exchange index ..... 77.3 (+0.1)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2915.9 (-37.5)
Dow Jones ...3419.17 (-37.83)*
Nikkei Avg. 18037.52 (+132.73)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank ... 5⅝-5⅝%
US Federal Funds 2¾%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.95-2.94%*
Long Bond 6.83%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£/$	....1.4338*	£/$	.....1.4345
$/DM	.1.6857*	£/DM	...2.3855
$/SWfr	1.5230*	£/SWfr	...2.1850
$/Ffr	...5.6605*	£/Ffr	....8.0840
$/Yen	.117.78*	£/Yen	...168.92
£/SDR	..1.0436	£/ECU	..1.2281

London Forex market close.

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 326.50 ..... PM 327.00
Close 327.20-327.70
New York:
Comex 327.95-328.45*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 137.9 January (1.7%)
* Denotes midday trading price

BA poised to win go-ahead for USAir deal

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ **Renegotiating the present restrictive Anglo-American aviation agreement may be the price the US administration demands for approving BA's investment**

BRITISH Airways is expected to receive US approval for its proposed $750 million investment in USAir, aviation sources said last night.

The Clinton administration was set to rule in favour of BA, despite furious last-minute lobbying by American, United and Delta, the "big three" US airlines, which protested that the agreement would give BA a big advantage on transatlantic routes.

The deal involves an initial $300 million investment in USAir by BA, along with a "code-sharing" agreement under which BA would effectively extend USAir's domestic operations into a "seamless service" across the Atlantic by co-ordinating flights and computer reservations. Later, BA would invest a further $450 million in USAir in two tranches.

The stakes for both sides are enormous and the deal has been considered at the highest levels of the administration. BA's initial $300 million investment does not require administration approval, as it would give the UK carrier only 19.9 per cent of voting rights in USAir, well under the 25 per cent cap on foreign investors. The code-sharing does need approval, however.

This week, sources said the administration was inclined to approve the code-sharing but — to try to placate the "big three" — might subject the further BA investments to a public enquiry. Conceivably, it could order that enquiry to look at the initial investment too.

It was unclear whether the US airlines' frantic eleventh-hour lobbying would influence an administration that has promised to stand up for American interests. As late as Thursday, however, the White House was telling Ann Richards, the governor of Texas, where American Airlines is based, that the deal was likely to be approved.

American carriers contend that the deal is a repackaged version of the $750 million investment plan that BA withdrew last December in the face of the Bush administration's opposition.

They are determined that BA should be given greater access to the US market only in return for reciprocal access to Heathrow.

Renegotiating the present, restrictive, Anglo-American civil aviation agreement may be the price the administration demands for approving the further investments, but the US airlines have argued that it should make the code-sharing agreement conditional on a new bilateral agreement.

"Giving BA unlimited access to the US aviation marketplace ... forfeits any negotiating leverage the government might have with the British," they claimed.

The dilemma for the administration is that without foreign investment, not just USAir, but Continental and Northwest, could go out of business. USAir, which employs 47,000 people, has lost $1 billion over the past three years.

Robert Crandall, chairman of American Airlines, said in London yesterday that he did not care about BA investment in, or control of, USAir. "But I do care about code-sharing, because that will give BA products American Airlines cannot sell."

After a meeting with John MacGregor, the transport secretary, Mr Crandall said that, despite its free market rhetoric, the British government remained "very protectionist" in the aviation field.

He dismissed as "crumby" the offer of gradually increased access for US airlines to British airports, which was dropped last December.

But he said: "If the US is going to behave like a bunch of wimps, the British government is right to push."

MARC ASPLAND



Profits bloom: ISA International, which distributes products used in computers, fax machines and typewriters, is raising its dividend to 1.5p (1.365p) for the year, with an increased final payout of 1.018p (0.951p), after a 43 per cent profits advance. The pre-tax figure jumped to £3.04 million in the year to end-December, 1992, up from £2.12 million in 1991, on turnover (boosted by acquisition) 56 per cent ahead at £119 million. John Parkinson, above, the chairman, said although it is early days, the group had made an encouraging start to the first quarter of the year. Earnings per share rose 50 per cent to 6.45p (4.31p). ISA shares firmed 2p to 103p.

LE to pull out of retailing

BY MARTIN WALLER

LONDON Electricity is pulling out of its loss-making retail operation, which has been leaking cash since an ill-advised expansion coincided with the downturn in high street spending. It will close 17 outlets in the capital, although the company hopes to avoid compulsory redundancies.

A complex buyout will allow the management of the retail side, which lost LE £4 million in the first half of its financial year, to take on the existing stock at about three quarters of its initial cost and operate out of 15 shops currently trading under the Powerstore name.

A further four Powerstores will be run by the management under a licensing arrangement, along with the 47 in-store concessions operated by LE within branches of Debenhams. LE is effectively funding the deal, in that the £6 million being paid for stock is only repayable in cash instalments by January 1994 as profits materialise.

The company will take a £20 million exceptional charge out of current year profits from the withdrawal from electrical retail, but Roger Urwin, the chief executive, said this was still "the most effective exit route at the least cost".

A total of 120 staff will join the management, who are putting in £500,000 of their own money. Of the 200 other staff affected, half will work at the 13 stores LE is keeping open as customer service outlets. It is hoped jobs can be found for the rest elsewhere in the company.

Shares fall around the world

BY MICHAEL CLARK, STOCK MARKET CORRESPONDENT

SHARE prices around the world fell sharply after recent strong gains, unsettled by political uncertainty in Russia and Hong Kong.

In London, the stock market reacted badly to news of a 200-point overnight fall in Hong Kong. The FT-SE 100 index ended down 37.5 points on the day, at 2,915.9. Despite the falls, selling pressure was light, with investors content to square their book positions before Tuesday's Budget. After this week's record breaking run, the index is still almost 50 points up on the two-week account.

In New York, the Dow Jones industrial index, which hit record levels for most of last week, plunged 52 points from the start of trading. By lunchtime, the index was off its worst, but down 50.55 at 3,406.45, making a two-day fall of almost 72 points.

The British economy edged forward in the final months of last year, with final gross domestic product figures yesterday showing modest growth of 0.2 per cent between the third and fourth quarters. Central Statistical Office figures confirmed that the economy shrank by 0.5 per cent in 1992 as a whole, about half what the Chancellor projected in the Autumn Statement. The figures confirm that the recession appears to have bottomed out. After devaluation, exports made a positive contribution to growth in the fourth quarter for the first time since the second quarter 1991.

Other figures showed that the savings ratio fell 0.9 per cent between the third and fourth quarters to 11.4 per cent but the CSO said the third quarter ratio had been abnormally high.

■ US producer prices rose 0.4 per cent in February, more than economists had expected.

Stock markets, page 24

Pilkington will pay £95m for Heywood distribution arm

BY GEORGE SIVELL, CITY EDITOR

PILKINGTON, the glassmaker, is to buy the distribution business of Heywood Williams, Britain's largest glass merchant, in a £95 million cash deal that is subject to the approval of Heywood shareholders and the Office of Fair Trading.

If allowed, the acquisition would enable Pilkington to control its distribution in the same way as continental glass makers, notably St Gobain, the French group that bought Solaglas, Heywood's main competitor, in 1990. Continental glass makers tend to sell direct to customers rather than through a separate distribution company.

The deal would give Pilkington a 27 per cent share of the distribution market, against the 15 per cent held by Solaglas. Pilkington believes its market share would help it get closer to customers and introduce new products, especially coated glass, which, because of new technological developments, can be supplied direct from the factory. Pilkington also believes it would be able to set the tone more effectively for the 50 per cent of the market that goes through independent distributors. The deal would raise Pilkington debts to almost 90 per cent of shareholders' funds. Successful disposal of Sola, Pilkington's spectacle lens maker, which analysts think may fetch £200 million, will still only bring debts back down to 65 per cent.



Hinchliffe: payout held

The attraction for Pilkington lies in immediately being able to feed the 40 per cent of glass it did not supply to Heywood through its own production lines, which have high fixed costs, but very high returns once the costs are met. Its shares rose 7p to 108p.

The Heywood business being sold made £2.7 million before interest in 1992 on net assets of £42.4 million against £10.9 million in 1990. Total group profits in that year were £31 million. The group believes it cannot recover to former levels of profit, because of the restructuring of the British glass market, and says it will use the proceeds for plastics acquisitions.

Its shares rose 53p to 239p even though Ralph Hinchliffe, executive chairman, revealed a fall in pre-tax profits from £19.2 million to £5.5 million for 1992. Earnings fell from 17.4p to 1.7p but the total dividend is held at 12.5p.

Matador moves in to cut fat from VW

By Colin Narbrough

FERDINAND Piëch, the new man at the wheel of Volkswagen, has brought in a Spaniard, J Ignacio Lopez de Arriortura, to extract every last drop of efficiency from Europe's biggest carmaker in a quest for higher margins.

The near-religious fervour with which Señor Lopez addressed cost-cutting at General Motors earned him a fearsome reputation. As head of purchasing at GM, where he was in charge of a $50 billion budget, he was the figure most identified with deep and painful cuts.

While carworkers at VW's German plants, might be filled with angst at the prospect of being metaphorically put to the sword by an Iberian taskmaster, the Frankfurt bourse warmed to Señor Lopez's decision to join the management board. VW shares climbed more than DM5 to a peak of DM294.50. The market's view is that Señor Lopez will do for VW what German corporate captains have been unwilling to do: namely, to undertake cost-cutting commensurate to the task of reversing the decline in profits, rather than maintaining industrial harmony and market share.

A German trade newsletter claimed that Señor Lopez is to be paid $15 million for a five-year contract, which would make him the top earner in the European car industry.

Herr Piëch, the former head of Audi, who only took over as management board chairman at VW this year, wants a change of corporate culture. Possibly feeling inhibited as a German about appearing too aggressive, he poached Señor Lopez to become his head of production. The 52-year-old Spaniard arrives at Wolfsburg, the carmaking town born out of Hitlerian industrial policy, at a time when high labour costs and practices threaten to drive swathes of manufacturing industry abroad.

Removing fat is Señor Lopez's passion. At GM, he penned a booklet on healthy eating — *Feeding the Warrior Spirit* — to encourage purchasing agents to be tougher with suppliers. He warned his American colleagues about the decline of their soft-bellied civilisation.

Leaks of VW's 1992 figures show that group net profit slumped to DM135 million (DM1.11 billion). Herr Piëch plans to cut 30,000 jobs by the end of next year. Señor Lopez's attack will be on two fronts: lowering the cost of supplies and making production leaner than ever before.



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BUSINESS PROFILE: **David Crossland**

High-flyer has feet on the ground

Martin Waller finds ambition behind the grey facade of the head of Airtours



Safe northern hands: Airtours is projecting such an image of David Crossland as an advantage in its bid for Owners Abroad

David Crossland would not quibble if you estimated his annual outgoings at as little as £30,000, yet he is worth £100 million on paper. By Budget day, he may be worth rather more, potentially at least, if Airtours' £235 million bid for Owners Abroad is successful. The price on offer is a keen one, and success would offer Airtours immense scope to benefit from the resulting near-third of the British package holiday market the merged group would control.

To say the extra profits would not alter Crossland's lifestyle would be an understatement; the man who chairs Airtours and owns 35 per cent of the shares works a 14-hour day and may find himself working a little harder, with even less time to spend on the finer things that money can buy.

Call him a dull, grey, workaholic northerner and he does not even argue. He rises at 5.30 each morning in a modest three-bedroom bungalow close to Manchester airport. He then drives 45 minutes to work to Airtours' head office at Helmshore, just south of Burnley, Lancashire, a small village populated by more Airtours staff than locals.

At weekends, when he is not touring rival holiday agents, casing the opposition and checking up on what is selling, he catches up on lost sleep, reads the newspapers and watches television. By Sunday afternoon, he is thinking about the next week's work. Last year's holiday barely stretched to three weeks; this year's will ideally be spent at Crawley, he says, at Owners Abroad's headquarters, going through the books and starting the enormous task of integrating the two companies. He may take two days off to celebrate his wedding anniversary and the birthday of his wife, Anne.

Crossland is a vegetarian, but not through deep moral conviction: he quit meat-eating without a qualm when he found this the best way to bring down his weight and blood pressure, the better to work more efficiently — his favourite word. He enjoys a glass of wine but does not drink while working, which rules out most waking hours — "Drink relaxes me and doesn't make me sharp. When I'm working, I like to be sharp."

Short, with a round, bland face, slightly protruding ears and a soft, high-pitched Lancashire accent, he looks like the school swot whom everyone picked on. In fact, he was the school dunce whom everyone picked on. He is one of those businessmen whose life only began after he shook off the chalk dust of an undistinguished schooling, but his first choice of career was frustrated. A mother and sister working in the health service drew him towards hospital management.

A dull choice surely, even by comparison with selling holidays? "It would have been doing something good socially, and it would be satisfying to me to make it run more efficiently than it looked like it was being run." Crossland counters, with the beginnings of something resembling animation.

He failed the interview and started work at a travel agent, sparking an unlikely life-long passion for the holiday industry. "People enjoy holidays," he says. "They come back satisfied with the product, but anticipation is the biggest part. With most people, what they look forward to while they are working is going on holiday."

One suspects that the passion is for parting people from their money. Although he is involved in all aspects of the job, negotiating with hoteliers, airlines and the like, his conversation comes around again and again to the travel agent, and the face-to-face relationship with the customer.

His big break came in 1972 with an £8,000 loan — "the last time the company has been in debt" — to buy two small travel agents. Expansion came slowly and cautiously, at least until the heady stock market rating of recent years. The first shrewd move was to realise that his customers in the North West, tied by manual jobs to Monday-to-Friday holiday slots, had no time for the Wednesday-to-Wednesday packages then on offer from the big operators. Crossland merely chartered the necessary Saturday planes, and an integrated business was born. Since Owners went into open bid season on December 16, he has slept in his own bed at home three times.

> 'Drink relaxes me... When I'm working, I like to be sharp'

Christmas Day brought a full board meeting. He accepts he is driven by his work. "I don't know why — it's annoying, because I'm a very logical person," he says. "But it isn't really work, is it?"

Here, he probably comes closest to the truth. Crossland is fortunate enough to enjoy what he does, and unfortunate enough, if you like, to enjoy nothing else. Success with Owners Abroad would therefore require a further challenge two years or more down the line for this 46-year-old, and, given the combined group's huge market share, this will have to involve another allied industry or a foreign interest — the bid for Owners was lucky to avoid a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The observer would here scent impending disaster. Crossland has so far stuck to the area in which he has worked all his life. Entrepreneurs who diversify too far tend to come to grief. But he claims his salvation will be his natural caution. There is something contrived, almost artful, about his bland exterior. This is a man who was described as possessing "ruthless ambition and colossal ego", but precious little goes on show. This at least helps him stand out in an industry of individualists and egomaniacs who cultivate the tabloid press; not for him the gargantuan excesses of a Harry Goodman or the high-profile high jinks of Richard Branson.

> 'Christmas Day brought a board meeting. He is driven by work'

One suspects that during the bid this dull, grey image has been cultivated to contrast with his counterpart and chief adversary at Owners Abroad. Howard Klein is a fast-talking and clever salesman, a Londoner through and through, whose brashness, if you believe the Airtours version of the affair, may have helped trigger the bid. Mr Klein has not lacked for enemies in the travel trade during the growth years for Owners Abroad and since he replaced his predecessor and the man who brought him into the company. Last summer, two of his directors, and not for the first time, Crossland suggests, started to cast around for an alternative helmsman and approached Airtours to talk about a friendly get-together. Needless to say, this version of events is challenged by the Owners camp, and there is no evidence of a boardroom rift.

But there are clear advantages to Airtours in projecting Crossland as a safe northern pair of hands.

Crossland denies accusations of a swollen ego — "not much good in Helmshore, it wouldn't impress the sheep" — but admits his swoop on Owners is seen by some as "a bit like the Danes in the eighth century, coming south raping and pillaging".

I confess to him that I find it hard to picture him, berserker's blood up and battle-axe in hand, in any such role. "Which one?" he beams cherubically. "The raping or the pillaging?"

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Victaulic optimistic amid uncertainties

VICTAULIC, the pipeline supplier, is taking a positive view of 1993 even though the size of orders from British Gas this year may remain uncertain. Reduced demand from British Gas in 1992, at 34 per cent against 38 per cent of turnover, and lower orders from industry, left pre-tax profits 5.4 per cent lower at £13.5 million (£14.3 million), and clipped turnover from £114.8 million to £101 million.

The 1992 total dividend rises from 7.35p to 7.8p a share, and year-end net cash balances were £6.2 million, against £9.7 million. Net interest received in 1992 totalled £651,000 (£361,000), but is likely to fall in 1993 because of lower interest rates. The group has reduced costs, but David Stewart, managing director, says orders from British Gas cannot be expected to improve until the question of ownership of the pipeline network is resolved, and British Gas' future determined.

Fixed rates lift Savings

NATIONAL Savings fixed-interest certificates made the largest net addition to government funding of all NS products last month, bringing in £89 million. Index-linked savings certificates brought in £53 million and capital bonds £33 million. Total gross sales of all products were £546 million and, after repayment of £497 million, net receipts totalled £49 million. The total net addition to government funding of all NS products in February was £162 million.

BMW Rolls signs deal

BMW Rolls-Royce, the Anglo-German aircraft engine maker, has signed an agreement with Bombardier Aerospace Group North America to power the Canadair global express twin-jet business aircraft. No value has been placed on the agreement as the aircraft has not yet been launched. There were 37 firm orders for the aeroplane, a spokesman said. The Bombardier deal is BMW Rolls-Royce's second contract. The company was formed in 1990.

Forward into black

FORWARD Technology Industries, the cleaning equipment maker and duplicator of video and audio cassettes, made pre-tax profits of £186,000 (£872,000 loss) in the year to end-December on turnover of £40.2 million (£39.8 million). Profit from the electronics operation were £460,000 (£601,000), and sound and vision profits were £862,000 (£42,000). Interest charges fell to £586,000 (£730,000). There are no earnings per share (2.4p loss), nor a dividend.

Drayton fights Dragon

DRAYTON Asia Trust, an Asian investment trust managed by Invesco MIM, is restructuring in an attempt to fight off a hostile bid from EFM Dragon, the Far East investment trust that is half Drayton's size. Drayton is offering shareholders shares and warrants in Asia Investment Trust, a new investment trust, in exchange for their existing holdings. AIT will be managed by Invesco MIM. Drayton's board believes the proposal represents better value than the Dragon offer.

Huntingdon warning

HUNTINGDON International, the engineering and environmental services group, gave a warning that restructuring its US business to cope with worsening trading conditions would cost £3 million. As a result, profits for the three months to the end of this month will be below expectations. The company said it did not expect a fundamental improvement in American trading conditions until a general upturn in the economy reached the construction industry.

Cussins back in black

SHARES in Cussins, the housebuilder and property developer, jumped 11p to 57p as the company announced a return to the black in 1992. There was a pre-tax profit of £740,000, against a loss of £365,000 in 1991. But there is again no dividend, below-the-line extraordinary provisions of £2.71 million from the group's property activities sending Cussins into an attributable loss of £1.24 million — which, however, is less than half the 1991 level.

Train still takes strain for PowerGen

BRITISH Rail yesterday dismissed suggestions that it was in danger of losing its role delivering coal to the power stations of PowerGen, Britain's second-largest generator (Ross Tieman writes).

The real threat to British Rail's freight business, according to power industry sources, lies in a one-third fall in the volume of coal to be carried over the next two years. That is likely to result in revenues from the generators, which are now about £240 million a year, falling substantially.

PowerGen has given notice of termination of the contract under which BR's bulk freight arm, Trainload Freight, delivers almost 20 million tonnes of coal a year on dedicated trains to six power stations. But Trainload said a new contract was being negotiated.

PowerGen expected the coal involved in new contracts with British Coal to be "transported mainly by rail".

THE TIMES PORTFOLIO DEALING SERVICE

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Lloyd's shapes its battle plan

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

LLOYD'S of London is buzzing as agents and brokers wait anxiously for details of the market's long overdue restructuring, due to be unveiled at the end of April.

Changes highlighted in the business plan — the first in the market's 306-year history and being worked on by Peter Middleton, chief executive, and David Rowland, chairman — are aimed at stemming the flow of capital from the market.

It is expected that new names will be exempted from liability for billions of pounds of past losses. There is growing support for the suggestion that syndicates involved in underwriting high-risk business, such as pollution, asbestosis and insurance for members' agents, leave their 1990 year of account open.

The 1990 year would normally be reinsured into 1993, with the 1990 names paying a premium reflecting the perceived risks taken on by new names. Years have hitherto been left open only when it has been impossible to close them after three years because of unquantifiable potential losses.

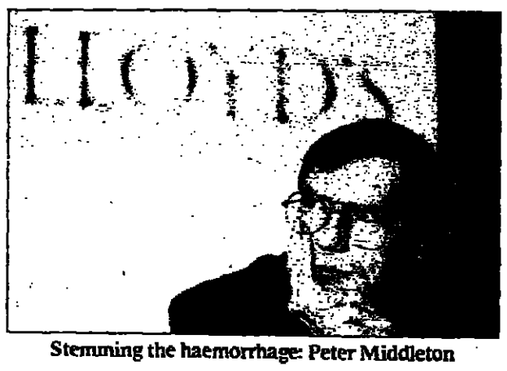
Underlying the new idea is concern over capacity, estimated to have fallen to £8.5 billion this year. Both Mr Rowland and Mr Middleton stress that corporate capital is critical to the long-term future of Lloyd's. However, corporate capital is in the form of quota-share reinsurance and does not add to the market's underwriting capacity. Apart from the shortage of new names, it is expected that 1990 losses, due to be reported in June, will be the worst ever. Estimates have risen to more than the £2.06 billion announced last year for 1989.

Pollution and asbestosis claims are still hitting the market hard, and there is uncertainty over the liabilities of members' agents as a result of litigation by loss-making names. Lloyd's cannot force syndicates to leave their 1990 years open, but it can issue guidance. However, many syndicates are thought to be considering leaving the year open. The drop in capacity is in some cases so severe that syndicates have been unable to reinsure to close.

Such a move would not, however, be free from difficulties. Only a few names would need to contest it to start a new round of litigation.

An alternative being mooted is pooling existing reserves to cover pollution, errors and omissions and asbestosis risks. The problem with this is that claims might outstrip reserves, thwarting the aim of enabling new names to join without being liable for old losses. This is because names on profitable syndicates can be required to fund others' losses through a central fund levy.

The decision rests with the market board, chaired by Sir Brian Garraway. It is due to report to the Council of Lloyd's on April 7.



Stemming the haemorrhage: Peter Middleton

Sotheby's profits hammered

BY COLIN CAMPBELL

TOUGH conditions in the art market, combined with the adverse effect of exchange-rate movements and restructuring charges, clipped pre-tax profits of Sotheby's Holdings from $21.5 million to $6.49 million during the year ended December 31.

Group post-tax income was $3.96 million ($13.1 million in 1991) from revenues of $225 million. The year's dividend is held at 60 cents a share, though net earnings fell from 25 cents to 7 cents a share.

Auction sales rose from $1.104 billion to $1.132 billion and costs continue to be controlled, Michael Ainslie, chief executive officer, said.

Income from Sotheby's principal auction activities fell from $15.9 million to $1.77 million, and after a $4.86 million restructuring charge, the operating loss from auctions was $1.99 million compared with a $12.1 million profit.

Westland helicopter order flies into trouble

FROM JACK BEST IN OTTAWA

A CANADIAN defence department plan to spend C$5.8 billion (£3.2 billion) on a fleet of British-Italian naval helicopters has run into political turbulence and is likely to become an issue in the federal general election expected later this year.

The Conservative government has been under daily attack in the Canadian parliament over the planned purchase of 50 EH101 machines designed and made by European Helicopters, a partnership of Britain's Westland Helicopters and Augusta, of Italy. Liberal and New Democratic Party critics claim that the EH101, which Canada ordered primarily for anti-submarine patrols in the north Atlantic, is no longer needed now that the Russian submarine menace has abated. Instead, they urge an update of Canada's ageing Sea King helicopters.

The critics frequently refer to the fact that an EH101 prototype crashed not long ago, killing four people. Another objection is that the helicopter is too big and heavy for the frigates it will fly from, a difficulty supposedly aggravated by design flaws in the warships.

Fifteen EH101s are to be adapted for emergency rescue missions in Canada's interior and off the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. But critics say the downwash from the EH101's powerful rotors will endanger people waiting underneath for evacuation.

Kim Campbell, Canada's female defence minister, rejects the opposition charges. And Brian Mulroney, the prime minister, told a persistent questioner that the Conservatives intended to stick with the EH101.

The two key contracts — with European Helicopters for the airframe and with Paramax, of Montreal, for the helicopter's electronics — were signed last autumn. Each was for about C$1.4 billion.

The rest of the price is accounted for by support costs, and a $1.4 billion allowance for inflation through the 12-year life of the programme.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

"Glaxo, Britain's most successful company, is in trouble. A year ago it was Britain's biggest company with a market value of £28 billion. Since then, over £8 billion has been wiped off the market value — and last week its chief executive quit ..."

Business Focus — The Sunday Times tomorrow

Bank task force considers future without Taurus

BY JON ASHWORTH

As the search begins for a replacement for Taurus, a bank is proposing a clearing house to settle institutional trades, which account for 80 per cent of share trading

THE Bank of England task force on securities settlement met for the first time yesterday to decide whether anything can be salvaged from the ruins of Taurus, the failed electronic settlement system.

Jane Barker, acting chief operating officer of the Stock Exchange, joined several financial market specialists for the first of a series of meetings that will be held during the next three months. The task force, under the chairmanship of Pen Kent, an associate director of the Bank, has until the end of June to present its findings.

Possible solutions include a two-tier system of settlement that would provide separate services for institutional and private investors. Taurus was originally aimed at institutional investors. It was later extended to private investors, who are responsible for most of the "paper" the computerised system hoped to remove.

Members of the task force include Richard Britton, the Securities and Investments Board's expert on financial markets, Alan Whiting, an under secretary at the Treasury and Denis Child, chairman of the London Clearing House. Former members of the Taurus project are particularly pleased with the choice of Mr Child, a director of National Westminster Bank, who led a review of payment systems between banks in the early 1980s.

One of the difficulties facing the task force is the sheer size and complexity of London as a financial centre. Paperless settlement systems work efficiently in markets like Paris and Frankfurt, where volumes are tiny by comparison.

A clear agenda has been mapped out. Basic parameters to be established include the cost structure and the speed of rolling settlement required. They will then consider the various structures and systems that can deliver what is required. The bulk of the research will be conducted by the Bank's clearing and settlement division. John Ellis, a senior manager in the department, is secretary to the task force.

Meanwhile, the Royal Bank of Scotland has announced it is to lead an industry-wide initiative to consider and promote practical ideas to find a rapid and cost-effective replacement for Taurus. A meeting of industry practitioners has been arranged for Tuesday.

Terry Pearson, head of global custody at the bank, has put forward the idea of a clearing house to settle the institutional trades that account for 80 per cent of the value of Stock Exchange turnover. These are the deals most at risk from settlement delays and defaults.

Mr Pearson said: "If we can encompass this in a secure environment, then that could perhaps be quite a cheap exercise and fairly simple to establish. We see that as a possible way forward."

Dismay continued to spread at the Stock Exchange's decision to scrap Taurus after 12 years of development and costs running into hundreds of millions of pounds.

Patrick Whale, a senior information technology partner at KPMG Management Consulting, said difficulties with the Taurus project should have become apparent much earlier. Mr Whale, immediate past president of the Computing Services Association, said: "I've never seen a major IT project that lasted more than three years ever deliver anything workable."

Leading computer services suppliers such as Hoskyns and Logica spoke of the huge amounts invested in Taurus. Ian Jackson, executive director, finance section of Hoskyns, said: "Whatever happens, it will be vital to preserve what we can of the enormous amount of effort that has gone into this project."



Best foot forward: John Church, the chairman, reports that retailing has started well this year, boosted by new store openings

Church steps ahead at £1.9m

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

DESPITE persistent tough trading conditions, the well-heeled have helped Church & Co, the quality shoe maker and retailer, to unveil higher full-year profits and sound a positive note on 1993 prospects.

Stringent cost controls helped the luxury leather goods company, which is best known for its traditional British brogues, lift pre-tax tax profits by 10.8 per cent to £1.88 million in the year to end-December.

John Church, chairman, said: "1993 has started well in the UK, particularly in the retail company, which has benefited from very buoyant January sales. It gave us a very strong start to the year. But almost all the company's markets are to a greater or lesser extent suffering from a degree of economic downturn."

Though a traditional pair of Church shoes retail at £150-£160, demand has held up and Mr Church insists that "we are at the quality end, and, as we say, our shoes are cheaper by the mile".

Turnover of the Northampton group, which has 162 shops worldwide, with 101 in the UK, advanced 5.6 per cent to £68.9 million, boosted by new store openings at the A Jones & Sons retailing subsidiary.

About 70 per cent of the group's shoes go to overseas markets. During the year, A Jones opened new shops in Bow Lane in the City of London, and also in Kingston upon Thames, both of which have made an "encouraging start and are going extremely well".

The group's 16-shop US operation sustained a "fairly modest loss" of £88,000 (£15,000 loss).

Earnings climb to 12p (11.6p) a share. The dividend is maintained at a marginally uncovered total of 12.5p for the year, with a proposed unchanged final payout of 3p, reflecting "cautious optimism". The shares were unchanged at 310p.

Primerica pays $1bn for Shearson

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

WALL Street's second largest stockbroking empire was created yesterday when Primerica bought the broking and money management arm of Shearson Lehman from American Express for just over $1 billion.

The new firm will rival Merrill Lynch, the industry leader. But the merger, due to be completed by July, is expected to cost hundreds of back room and administrative jobs at Shearson.

American Express will write off $730 million worth of goodwill, severance and loss of reserves against profits for the first three months of this year. The group would not say whether this will cause it to incur losses in the first quarter.

Primerica, a $7 billion insurance, money management and broking concern, will merge Shearson with Smith Barney Harris Upham, its own stockbroker, and call the new firm Smith Barney Shearson.

That new group will have a combined stockbroking army of 11,000, servicing 4 million customer accounts from 495 offices across America, with a combined revenue that topped $13 billion last year. It will rank as the fourth largest money manager in America, handling $112 billion worth of investments.

The deal does not include Lehman Brothers, the investment bank whose operations cover the lucrative underwriting business, stock and bond trading, its respected research department and a network of 750 brokers in 20 overseas offices (including London) that serve wealthy investors.

Lehman will, however, provide Smith Barney Shearson with a variety of services over the next two years.

American Express said yesterday that while no decision has been made on Lehman's future, proceeds from the sale of Shearson will boost its finances and could bring it much closer to being offered as a public company.

Wall Street continued to applaud the deal yesterday, sending Primerica's share price to a peak of $48.50, up more than 10 per cent this week and double its low point for this year.

The deal is also being seen as a triumph for Sanford Weill, Primerica's chairman, and the man who built Shearson in the 1970s and sold it to American Express in 1981. The feisty 59-year-old, a former $65-a-week trading floor clerk who is now worth an estimated $100 million, is said to be betting his firm's future not on the traditional and highly profitable underwriting business, but on its abilities as a powerful share trading house with a huge retail outlet designed to attract a large share of the new stock and bond issues market.

☐ Standard and Poor's Corp has affirmed Primerica Corp's single-A senior debt, A-minus subordinated debt and preferred stock and A-1 commercial paper. In addition, Unit Commercial Credit Co's single-A senior debt and A-1 commercial paper were affirmed.

O&Y to end bankruptcy protection

Olympia & York Developments is expected to end formally its ten-month period of protection from creditors under Ontario and New York bankruptcy courts.

O&Y has a "routine" motion in a New York court to dismiss the chapter 11 proceedings on O&Y and four subsidiaries.

Walker in red

Thomas Walker blamed reduced sales and margins for a pre-tax loss of £71,400 in the six months to end-December, compared with a profit of £2,600 last time, on turnover down to £1.7 million (£1.73 million). The interim dividend is maintained at 0.18p. The shares eased 1p to 28p.

Headway made

Headway, the garden furniture and industrial goods specialist, trimmed pre-tax losses to £883,000 in the six months to end-December, compared with last time's loss of £1.2 million restated under the new FRS3 accounting format. Again there is no interim dividend. The shares firmed 1p to 25p.

Fresh threat to City's EC role

FROM TOM WALKER IN BRUSSELS

SECURITIES experts fear that a new EC regulatory committee could stifle the development of the single financial market and further dent London's hopes of becoming Europe's undisputed money markets capital.

Finance ministers are set to approve the setting up of the EC securities committee, a development greeted with dismay by the International Securities Market Association, which has campaigned for freer markets.

The committee will make technical amendments to the investment services and capital adequacy directives, the cornerstones of the single market in finance. Britain, Germany and The Netherlands helped to push the directives through the council of ministers, but the securities committee could provide traditionally protectionist governments, such as those of France and Italy, with a chance to dilute their effects.

The Brussels-based Federation of European Stock Exchanges is worried because member states will be left to appoint officials to the committee. "It's fine if you have experts with broad market experience," said Jean Pierre Paelinck, secretary general of the federation. "But will people recruited from member states really have that type of experience?"

The commission sought to allay fears over the committee. "The worst that could happen is that an amendment we propose to the committee would not be adopted," said a finance official. If the commission and the committee agree on an amendment, it will go through without needing approval at ministerial level.

The International Securities Market Association compared the committee's powers to those of the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

The investment services directive, which gives brokers a "passport" to deal on any EC stock market, does not come into effect until 1996. But amendments may be necessary because of the complex web of legislation still being drafted. The committee will be passed as a formality by finance ministers at their meeting in Luxembourg in April.

Stern denies 'wrongful trading'

WILLIAM Stern has challenged reports of wrongful trading at Kensington Management Services, which went into liquidation on February 17 with debts of almost £6 million. Kensington collapsed when its parent, Dollar Land Group, withdrew its support after the presentation of a wind-up petition by Customs & Excise.

Mr Stern denied that Customs & Excise and the Inland Revenue, two of his largest creditors, were considering taking civil action for wrongful trading against him and his fellow directors. This was alleged in a seven-page report of a creditors' meeting, which was circulated by the Joe Wood news agency.

The liquidator said Customs had since dropped its court action, but he confirmed that the creditors' committee had asked him to investigate "a number of aspects giving rise to the deficiency, including the possibility of an action for wrongful trading". He added: "It would be premature to predict precisely whether any action is to be taken against the directors. My investigations are continuing and no conclusions can be drawn at this stage. I can say that to date I have received the full co-operation of the directors."

Mr Stern said Customs had since dropped its action and an arrangement had been reached with the Revenue.

Institutions wary of Barclays plans

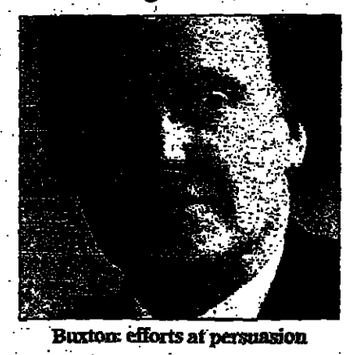
BY PATRICIA TEHAN

BARCLAYS Bank's institutional shareholders remain sceptical about its approach to corporate governance, despite efforts by Andrew Buxton, the chairman and chief executive, to win them over.

Next week, Mr Buxton will continue his efforts to reassure them that he will split his executive role in a meaningful way and that Barclays will overcome the troubles that led to the first loss in its 97-year history.

Institutions' first reactions have not been encouraging. One head of investment said: "We have not changed our view at all. It was a good meeting, both sides got over a lot of what we wanted to get over. But there is quite a long way to go yet."

He did not expect any immediate promises from Barclays. Mr Buxton's intentions in seeing large institutional shareholders was to gauge opinion. "The direction was encouraging," he said, "but precisely what will happen, I cannot say yet. There is recognition that the management structure . . . has not worked."



Buxton: efforts at persuasion

Some institutional shareholders, he said, were still baying for blood. A senior official with another large institution said Mr Buxton had not reassured those he had met. Another said institutions had told Barclays last summer, when Mr Buxton's appointment was announced, that they disapproved of the roles of chairman and chief executive being combined. Although the bank now appears to have accepted a split in power, the institution fears it has done so "less than wholeheartedly". It "does not seem to have embraced the idea of bringing in an outsider".

He said the issue could have been avoided if Barclays had made Mr Buxton chief executive and brought in an external industrialist as chairman. He would not be happy to see Sir Peter Middleton, the deputy chairman, take over as chairman, with Mr Buxton continuing as chief executive, since Sir Peter was "a retired civil servant, not a businessman".

Barclays was suggesting an internal appointment of a chief executive with a "neutered or diminished role", he said, which "does not make sense". Barclays has hinted that there are three internal candidates for the role of chief executive.

The head of one institutional investor, which has just under 2 per cent of Barclays' shares, said he would not be buying any more while Mr Buxton was in the driving seat. "It is of great importance," he said, "that Mr Buxton should now leave Barclays Bank." Mr Buxton had brought much recent criticism on himself. He had had the opportunity to do the right thing, and split the roles, last summer, but had failed to act.

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4 NIGHTS FOR £129

The Phoenix Hotel, Dereham. The Green Man Hotel, Harlow. The Blue Boar, Maidon. The Ship Hotel, Parkgate. The Polygon Hotel, Southampton. Chace Hotel, Coventry. Forte Crest, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The Homestead Court Hotel, Welwyn Garden City.

4 NIGHTS FOR £147

Forte Crest, Brighouse. The Royal Norfolk, Bognor Regis. The Angel & Royal, Grantham. The George Hotel, Huntingdon. The Duke's Head, King's Lynn. The Tontine, Peebles. Forte Crest, Swansea. The Prince of Wales, Southport. The Bell, Thetford. Royal Hotel, Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

4 NIGHTS FOR £162

The Whately Hall, Banbury. Frimley Hall, Camberley. Blossoms Hotel, Chester. The Two Brewers Inn, Chipperfield. Kingston Lodge Hotel, Kingston-upon-Thames. The Golden Lion, Northallerton. The Royal George, Perth. The Lion, Shrewsbury. The White Swan, Stratford-upon-Avon. The Grand Atlantic, Weston-Super-Mare. The Manor Hotel, Yeovil.

4 NIGHTS FOR £174

Peveril of the Peak, Dovedale. Forte Crest, Guildford. The Queen's, Leeds. The White Hart Hotel, Lincoln. Forte Crest, Bloomsbury, London.

4 NIGHTS FOR £192-£207

The Berystede (£207), Ascot. The Imperial Hotel (£207), Blackpool. Forte Crest (£192), Exeter. The Crown (£192), Harrogate. The Majestic (£207), Harrogate. St. George's Hotel (£207), London. Hotel Russell (£192), London. Forte Crest St James's (£207), London. Eastgate Hotel (£207), Oxford. The Castle Hotel (£207), Windsor. Forte Crest (£192), Winchester.

4 NIGHTS FOR £222 - £447

The Bath Spa Hotel (£297), Bath. The Balmoral (£297), Edinburgh. The Swan (£222), Lavenham. Brown's Hotel (£405), London. Grosvenor House Apartments (£417), London. Grosvenor House (£357), London. Hyde Park Hotel (£447), London. The Waldorf (£297), London. The Westbury (£267), London. The Compleat Angler (£297), Marlow. The Randolph (£267), Oxford. Rusacks Hotel (£237), St. Andrews. The Alveston Manor (£222), Stratford-upon-Avon. The Shakespeare (£222), Stratford-upon-Avon. The Imperial (£297), Torquay. The Bear Hotel (£222), Woodstock.

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HK shares slide after Patten move

FROM LULU YU IN HONG KONG

PANIC selling drove the Hang Seng index down 201 points, or 3 per cent, to 6,170 yesterday on the announcement that the democratic reforms by Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, would go ahead.

Frank Hu, of Wardley James Capel, said: "It was a bloodbath in the last 30 minutes. It's been a disastrous day for investors." Fears of an escalation of the Sino-British row over the reforms spurred selling across the board by both institutional and small investors.

There were hardly any buyers after 3pm, when Mr Patten announced the reforms would be gazetted as draft legislation.

Wholly-backed by Whitehall, the Hong Kong government had deferred gazetting the reform bill four times in the last month. The bill will now be debated by the colony's legislative council before being made into law. No date has been set for the debate.

Peking has made it a precondition that Mr Patten's reform package be scrapped before diplomatic talks on the 1997 transition resumed.

STOCK MARKET

ICI in spotlight on a dull day

BZW, ICI's joint broker, gave another crank on the demerger handle by publishing an important review of the company, highlighting the benefits of the proposed split and rights issue.

On a day when the rest of the equity market was falling heavily, ICI shares responded with a rise of 9p to £12.72. BZW is reckoned to be full of praise for Zeneca, which it claims has a large number of new drugs with plenty of potential in the pipeline.

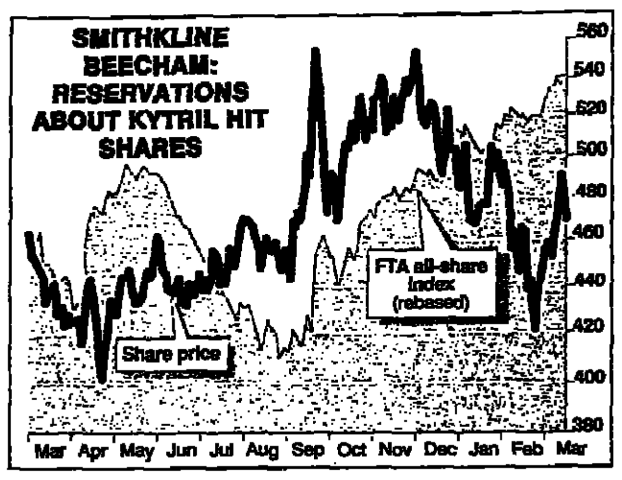
The new ICI, which includes the group's chemical operations, faces a tough year in Europe but should perform well over the longer term once the recession has ended and is backed by a strong yield.

There is also plenty of shareholder value in the demerger. Sir Denys Henderson, the chairman, has already said rationalisation benefits should be adding £300 million a year to profits by 1995.

The rest of the equity market ended the two-week trading account on a drab note, dragged lower by a 200-point fall overnight in Hong Kong and opening falls on Wall Street. Profit-taking also took its toll in the wake of this



Bauman: US delay



week's record-breaking run with investors unwilling to open fresh positions. It left the FT-SE 100 index 37.5 down at 2,915.9, a rise on the account of 47.9.

The fall in Hong Kong added to the problems of **HSBC**, due to report on Monday. The figures should make pleasant reading but the political uncertainty relating to the colony has depressed sentiment. HSBC finished 37p lower at 604p as investors switched into **Standard Chartered**, up 11p at 714p.

Falls were also seen in **Cable and Wireless**, down 10p at 713p, and **Inchcape**, 26p off at 583p, both with big exposure to the colony.

There was a sharp reversal of fortunes for **SmithKline Beecham**, where Bob Bauman is chairman, with the A shares tumbling 23p to 468p after news that the US Food and Drug Administration had delayed a decision about the marketing of Kytril, its anti-nausea and vomiting drug used in conjunction with cancer treatment.

A spokesman for the FDA said it had been unable to reach a decision because of genotoxicity and cardiovascular events. But SmithKline was confident it could work with the FDA to resolve these issues.

Earlier this week, the SmithKline share price had been chased sharply higher as investors switched out of **Glaxo** after the resignation of Ernest Mario, the chief executive. Glaxo continued to lose ground yesterday falling a further 3p to 665p. Elsewhere in the sector, there was further support for **Fisons**, 1p better at 210p, with the Daiwa Institute of Research advising clients that the company is growing again from a depressed base. But profit-taking left **British Bio-Technology** 10p cheaper at 470p, **Medeva** 7p at 236p, and **Wellcome** 6p at 929p.

John Karidis at Hoare Govett says the electrical industry should begin to pull out of recession in the third quarter of this year, with cyclicals recovering first. Overall demand is expected to grow by 7 per cent next year. Mr Karidis is keen on **Delta**, off 5p to 435p. **Babcock**, up ½p to 38½p, **Volex**, unchanged at 409p, **Pifco**, steady at 441p, and **BICC**, 8p weaker at 364p. But Hoare is bearish on **GEC**, 7½p lower at 293½p.

Costain, the struggling construction group, firmed ½p to 30½p after appointing Alan Lovell as finance director. Mr Lovell spent two years as finance director and chief executive at Conder Group.

Heywood Williams surged 53p to 239p on news of the proposed disposal of its glass processing and merchanting business to **Pilkington**, up 7p at 108p, for £95 million.

MICHAEL CLARK

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERMENT securities ended higher on the day, helped by bargain hunters hoping to pick up stock cheaply before Tuesday's Budget.

London resisted the downward pull of European bond markets as selective buying across the board squeezed prices higher. Brokers said most investors had been flushed out earlier in the week and were content to continue squaring up their book positions. This enabled the bargain hunters to buy stock at attractive prices.

On the futures market, the June series of the long gilt rose 13 ticks to £106²⁹/₃₂ as more than 36,000 contracts were completed.

In the cash market gains were more modest. At the shorter end, Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 added 10 ticks at £112⅝, while in longs Treasury 9 per cent 2012 was 15 ticks higher at £107.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
		SHORTS (under 5 years)				
104	100	Treas 12½% 1993	102	-	12.22	5.53
100	99	Fund 6% 1993	100	...	5.99	5.51
107	103	Treas 13¼% 1993	105	...	13.03	5.43
102	96	Treas 8¼% 1994	102	...	8.28	5.36
110	104	Treas 14½% 1994	108	...	13.36	5.34
110	103	Exch 13½% 1994	108	...	12.43	5.44
105	98	Treas 10% 1994	105	...	9.50	5.49
110	103	Exch 12¼% 1994	109	...	11.40	5.50
105	98	Treas 9% 1994	105	...	8.54	5.55
111	102	Treas 12% 1995	111	-	10.80	5.63
96	88	Gas 3% 1990-95	96	...	3.11	4.75
109	99	Exch 10¼% 1995	109	+	9.34	5.78
116	106	Treas 12¾% 1995	116	+	10.92	5.89
120	109	Treas 14% 1996	120	+	11.64	6.12
125	113	Treas 15¼% 1996	125	+	12.18	6.25
120	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	119	+	11.06	6.28
111	98	Conv 10% 1996	111	+	8.97	6.42
122	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	122	+	10.82	6.55
113	100	Exch 10½% 1997	113	+	9.24	6.53
108	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	108	+	8.06	6.49
132	117	Exch 15% 1997	132	+	11.35	6.52
113	97	Exch 9¾% 1998	112	+	8.66	6.65
		MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
103	98	Treas 7¼% 1998	103	+	7.14	6.48
100	86	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100	+	6.69	6.52
138	123	Treas 15½% 1998	138	+	11.19	7.00
122	107	Exch 12% 1998	122	+	9.79	7.11
112	97	Treas 9½% 1999	112	+	8.45	6.88
124	109	Exch 12¼% 1999	124	+	9.84	7.17
117	101	Treas 10½% 1999	117	+	8.95	7.01
117	100	Conv 10¼% 1999	116	+	8.79	7.09
110	94	Conv 9% 2000	110	+	8.14	7.04
131	114	Treas 13% 2000	130	+	9.95	7.46
115	99	Treas 10% 2001	115	+	8.69	7.44
129	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	128	+	10.83	7.14
114	98	Treas 9¾% 2002	114	+	8.54	7.62
57	46	Treas 8pc 2003	57	+	7.76	7.56
116	100	Treas 10% 2003	115	+	8.63	7.76
122	107	Treas 11½% 2001-04	122	+	9.40	7.71
74	59	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74	+	4.72	6.80
112	96	Conv 9½% 2004	111	+	8.49	7.91
112	96	Conv 9½% 2005	111	+	8.49	7.95
131	116	Treas 12½% 2003-05	131	+	9.52	8.07
101	85	Treas 8% 2002-06	100	+	7.96	7.92
125	110	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	125	+	9.40	8.01
104	89	Treas 8½% 2007	103	+	8.20	8.05
139	123	Treas 13½% 2004-08	139	+	9.70	8.06
		LONGS (over 15 years)				
108	93	Treas 9% 2008	107	+	8.35	8.10
99	85	Treas 8% 2009	98	+	8.09	8.11
107	93	Conv 9% 2011	106	+	8.42	8.25
107	93	Treas 9% 2012	106	+	8.42	8.27
76	62	Treas 5½% 2008-12	75	+	7.27	7.98
97	81	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	96	+	8.05	8.11
135	118	Exch 12% 2013-17	134	+	8.94	8.46
105	91	Treas 8¾% 2017	104	+	8.94	8.33
		UNDATED				
47	39	Consols 4%	47	-	8.47	...
42	35	War Ln 3½%	41	-	8.41	...
63	59	Conv 3½%	62	-	5.59	...
31	24	Consols 2½%	31	+	8.05	...
30	24	Treas 2½%	29	-	8.40	...
		INDEX-LINKED				
133	122	Treas IL 2% 1994	132	+	...	0.75
197	176	Treas IL 2% 1996	196	...	1.47	2.17
108	100	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108	+	2.01	2.65
166	139	Treas IL 2½% 2001	166	+	2.59	2.92
162	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	162	+	2.76	3.03
110	101	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	110	...	2.89	3.15
168	137	Treas IL 2% 2006	168	...	2.99	3.20
152	124	Treas IL 2½% 2009	151	...	3.22	3.40
157	129	Treas IL 2½% 2011	156	-	3.29	3.46
129	108	Treas IL 2½% 2013	128	-	3.35	3.51
137	112	Treas IL 2½% 2016	136	-	3.42	3.57
131	107	Treas IL 2½% 2020	131	-	3.48	3.61
109	88	Treas IL 2½% 2024	108	...	3.51	3.63
109	91	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109	...	3.52	3.64

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Stand Chartered	714p (+11p)
Cussins	58p (+12p)
Heywood Williams	239p (+53p)
News Intl	753p (+10p)
Thomson Corp	775p (+20p)
ADT	663p (+25p)
Serco Group	930p (+15p)
FALLS:	
HSBC	604p (-37p)
Inchcape	583p (-26p)
Siebe	489p (-10p)
TDG	266p (-10p)
Tiphook	364p (-10p)
Eurotunnel Units	474p (-11p)
BAT	948p (-13p)
Enterprise	485p (-12p)
Pearson	378p (-12p)
Carlton Comm	774p (-12p)
Swire Pacific 'A'	271p (-26p)
Transfer Tech	525p (-16p)
VSEL	580p (-11p)
Legal & General	471p (-14p)
Lloyds Abbey	441p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 33

RECENT ISSUES

For & Col US Slr Co (100)	102	-½
For & Col US Slr Wts	41	...
Intl Food Machinery (51)	73	+1
Merlin Intl Green Units	95	...
Motor World (210)	278	...
Pilot Inv Trust (100)	97½	-1½
Pilot Inv Wts	27	...
Schroder Split Fd (100)	104	...
-do- Split Fd Cap (20)	21	...
-do- Zero Div Pf (100)	100½	...
Wrts & Value Inv Tst (25)	25¼	...
Yorkshire Food (110)	130	-8
RIGHTS ISSUES		
Berkeley Group n/p (295)	44	-1
British Polythene n/p (405)	66	+1
Cookson n/p (170)	18	-1
Gold Grnls Trott n/p (239)	40	...
Howden Group n/p (52)	14	...
Menvier-Swain n/p (520)	42	-7
Stonehill Hldgs A n/p (10)	2	...
Trafalgar House n/p (60)	18	-1
Vickers n/p (95)	32	+5

Dow takes a tumble

New York — Wall Street shares fell in the late morning, on the crisis in Russia. The Dow Jones average was off about 33 at 3,424.

☐ **Tokyo** — Shares ended firmer, with the 225-share Nikkei index up 132.73 points at 18,037.52 on late active buying.

☐ **Frankfurt** — Shares fell on a report that armed troops had entered the Kremlin. The DAX 30-share index fell 10.26 to 1,707.14.

☐ **Sydney** — Shares closed barely ahead on pre-election nerves. The All-ordinaries index closed 0.4 up at 1661.5.

Reuter

	Mar 12 midday	Mar 11 close
AMP Inc	58	59
AMR Corp	59	60
Abbott Labs	26	26
Aetna Life	48	48
Ahmanson (HF)	26	27
Air Prod & Chem	44	45
Albertson's	52	53
Alcan Aluminum	19	19
Alco Standard	43	43
Allied Signal	66	67
Alum Co of Am	69	70
Amax	19	19
Amerada Hess	50	51
Amer Brands	33	34
Amer Cyanamid	51	51
Amer El Power	35	36
Amer Express	27	27
Amer Genl Corp	32	32
Amer Home Pr	63	64
Amer Intl	122	123
Amer Stores	39	40
Amer T & T	56	57
Ameritech	72	73
Amoco	53	54
Anheuser-Busch	53	53
Apple Computer	56	56
Archer Daniels	25	26
Arkla	8	8
Armco	7	7
Armstrng Wrld	33	34
Asarco	24	24
Ashland Oil	28	28
Atl Richfield	115	115
Auto Data Pro	54	54
Avery Dennison	27	27
Avon Products	64	69
Baker Hughes	23	23
Baltim Gas & El	25	25
Banc One	53	54
BankAmerica	53	54
Bank of NY	57	58
Bankers Tr NY	72	73
Barnett Banks	47	48
Bausch & Lomb	56	57
Baxter Intl	30	30
Becton Dickinsn	36	36
Bell Atlantic	52	52
BellSouth	54	54
Black & Decker	18	18
Block (H&R)	38	38
Boeing	35	34
Boise Cascade	25	25
Borden Inc	26	26
Bristol Myrs Sq	57	57
Browning Ferris	27	28
Burlington Nthn	51	51
CBS	202	204
CNA Financial	92	95
CPC Intl	49	49
CSX	71	72
Campbell Soup	44	45
Can Pacific	14	14
Cpd Cities ABC	507	508
Cpd Holdings	78	80
Carolina Pwr	31	32
Caterpillar	57	58
Central & SW	32	32
Champion Intl	30	30
Chase Manhat	34	35
Chemical Bk	42	43
Chevron Corp	76	77
Chrysler	38	39
Chubb Corp	92	93
Cigna Corp	61	62
Citicorp	28	28
Clorox	48	49
Coastal Corp	25	25
Coca Cola	42	42
Colgate-Palmolive	64	65
Columbia Gas	21	22
Commonw Ed	27	27
Compaq Comp	50	50
Comp Ass Intl	24	25
Conagra	28	28
Cons Edison	35	35
Cons Nat Gas	47	47
Cons Rail	57	57
Cooper Inds	53	53
Corning Inc	34	34
Crown Cork	39	39
Dana Corp	48	47
Dayton Hudson	79	79
Deere	53	55
Delta Air Lines	50	50
Deluxe Corp	42	43
Detroit Edison	35	35
Digital Equip	45	46
Dillard Dept St	44	44
Disney (Walt)	44	44
Dominion Res	42	43
Donelley (RR)	29	30
Dover Corp	48	48
Dow Chemicals	55	56
Dow Jones	33	33
Dresser	19	19
Duke Power	38	39
Dun & Bradstreet	60	60
Du Pont	48	47
Eastman Kodak	53	54
Eaton Corp	84	85

	Mar 12 midday	Mar 11 close
Emerson Elec	58	59
Engelhard Corp	42	42
Enron Corp	59	59
Entergy Corp	35	35
Ethyl Corp	29	30
Exxon	62	63
FMC Corp	47	48
FPL Group	38	38
Federal Express	56	57
Fed Nat Mtge	81	82
First Chicago	44	44
First Interstate	55	56
First Union Rlty	11	11
Fleet Finl Grp	36	37
Fluor Corp	44	46
Ford Motor	48	49
GTE Corp	36	36
Gannett	51	51
Gap Inc Del	33	34
Gen Cinema	35	35
Gen Dynamics	116	116
Gen Electric	86	87
Gen Mills	72	73
Gen Motors	38	38
Gen Reinsurance	117	118
Gen Signal	64	64
Genuine Parts	33	34
Georgia Pac	63	64
Gillette	60	60
Glaxo ADR	19	18
Goodrich (BF)	45	47
Goodyear Tire	74	75
Grace (WR)	38	38
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23	23
Great Wstn Fin	18	18
Halliburton	35	35
Heinz (HJ)	41	42
Hercules	73	75
Hershey Foods	53	54
Hewlett Packard	77	78
Hilton Hotels	47	47
Home Depot	63	64
Homestake	11	11
Honeywell	32	32
Household Intl	69	69
Houston Inds	46	47
Humana	7	7
ITT Corp	78	78
Illinois Tool	74	76
INCO	23	23
Ingersoll Rand	32	33
Inland Steel	22	22
Intel Corp	116	116
IBM	54	54
Intl Flav & Fr	115	116
Intl Paper	65	64
James River Va	18	18
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	43	44
K Mart	25	25
Kellogg	66	67
Kerr-McGee	46	47
Kimberly-Clark	57	57
Knight-Ridder	57	58
Lilly (Eli)	52	52
Limited Inc	24	24
Lin Brdcstng	82	83
Lincoln Nat	77	77
Litton	52	52
Liz Claiborne	35	36
Lockheed Corp	60	60
Louisiana Pac	68	70
MCI Commun	42	42
Marriott	27	26
Marsh & McLnn	93	93
Martin Marietta	71	71
Masco Corp	33	34
May Dept St	76	76
Maytag Corp	14	14
McCaw Cellular	36	36
McDonalds	51	52
McDonnell D	55	59
McGraw Hill	60	60
Mead Corp	42	43
Medtronic	78	78
Mellon Bk	60	60
Melville Corp	48	49
Merck Inc	38	39
Merrill Lynch	70	71
Minnesota Mine	108	109
Mobil Corp	67	68
Monsanto	54	54
Morgan (JP)	68	69
Motorola Inc	64	64
Natl Medical	9	9
Natl Semi	13	12
Natl Service Ind	25	26
Navistar Int	2	2
NBD Bancorp	35	35
NY Times A	29	30
Newmont Mng	39	39
Niag Mohawk	21	22
Nike B	72	72
NL Industries	4	4
Nordstrom	32	32
Norfolk Sthrn	64	65
Nthn State Pwr	46	46
Norwest Corp	30	30
Nynex Corp	87	88
Occidental Pet	20	20
Ohio Edison	24	24

	Mar 12 midday	Mar 11 close
Oracle Systems	34½	34
Oryx Energy Co	22	22
PNC Financial	32	33
PPG Industries	67	67
Paccar Inc	62	63
Pacificorp	17	17
Pac Enterprises	22	23
Pac Gas & Elec	34	34
Pac Telesis	47	47
Pall Corp	17	17
Panhandle East	22	22
Paramnt Comm	49	50
Parker Hannifin	32	32
Penney (JC)	84	84
Pennzoil	56	56
Pepsico	40	42
Pfizer	61	62
Phelps Dodge	51	52
Philadel Elec	29	29
Philip Morris	65	65
Phillips Pet	27	28
Pitney Bowes	40	41
Polaroid	29	29
Price Co	33	34
Primerica	48	48
Procter & Gmbl	53	53
Pub Serv E & G	33	33
Quaker Oats	66	67
Ralston Purina	50	51
Raychem Corp	42	43
Raytheon	56	56
Reebok Intl	36	36
Reynolds Metals	50	51
Roadway Srvcs	63	65
Rockwell Intl	29	29
Rohm & Haas	58	58
Royal Dutch	84	85
Rubbermaid	33	33
Safeco Corp	62	63
St Paul's Cos	80	81
Salomon Inc	40	40
Santa Fe S Pac	13	13
Sara Lee Corp	30	30
Scecorp	48	49
Schering Plough	60	60
Schlumberger	57	57
Scott Paper	38	39
Seagram	27	27
Sears Roebuck	52	52
Shell Trans	50	51
Sherwin Wlms	32	33
Skyline Corp	21½	22
Snap-On-Tools	33	33
Southern Co	40	41
Sthwestern Bell	72	72
Sprint Corp	30	30
Stanley Works	42	42
Sun Company	27	28
Suntrust	47	48
Supervalu	33	33
Syntex Corp	19	19
Sysco Corp	26	27
TRW Inc	60	60
Tandem Comp	13	13
Tandy Corp	26	26
Telecom Corp	2	2
Teledyne	21½	22
Temple Inland	49	50
Tenneco	46	47
Texaco	62	62
Texas Inst	60	60
Texas Utilities	44	44
Textron	43	44
Time Warner	35	36
Times-Mirror	34	34
Timken	28	29
Torchmark	60	61½
Toys R Us	41½	42
Transamerica	49	49
Travelers Corp	27	28
Tribune	55	54
Tyco Labs	46	46
UAL Corp	116	117
UST Inc	28	29
USX Marathon	19	18
Unilever NV	115	116
Union Camp	43	44
Union Carbide	17	17
Union Pacific	58	59
Unisys Corp	13	13
USAir Group	16	15
USF&G Corp	13	13
US Life	38	39
US West	40	40
United Tech	46	47
Unocal Corp	26	26
Upjohn	28	29
VF Corp	53	53
Wal-Mart Stores	33	33
Warner-Lambert	67	68
Waste Mgemnt Inc	38	38
Wells Fargo	105	108
Westinghouse El	13	13
Weyerhaeuser	41½	42
Whirlpool	52	52
Whitman	14	14
Winn Dixie	70	70
Woolworth	30	30
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	33	34
Xerox	83	84

UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS. 071 538 8800				
Series Mixed Fd	393.10	405.50	-4.70	...
Series Equity	484.10	512.30	+3.90	...
Series Prop Fd	395.50	408.00		
Series Fixed Int	312.10	330.30	+1.50	...
Series Money Fd	237.10	251.00	-0.20	...
Series Oseas Fd	275.60	291.90	-9.30	...
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE 2-12 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD. 0800 010575				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	15.68	17.83	+0.02	
Bear	18.07	19.03	+0.17	
Owl	17.79	[illegible]	+0.27	
Bull	16.16	16.94	+0.29	
Stag	15.40	17.69	-0.42	
Gilt Edged	17.75	17.75	+0.06	
Deposit	15.30	15.00	+0.01	
Pensions				
Squirrel	22.52	23.72	+0.02	
Bear	23.30	25.16	-0.27	
Owl	23.44	24.66	-0.42	
Bull	[illegible]	[illegible]	-0.43	
Stag	23.54	21.42	-0.62	
Gilt Edged	21.62	21.62	+0.08	
Deposit	19.94	19.94	+0.02	
[illegible]				
[illegible]	507.22	507.33	+6.40	
[illegible]	303.30	319.27	+3.96	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+9.12	
Far East Equity	[illegible]	[illegible]	+10.20	
Fixed	[illegible]	[illegible]	+1.03	
Cash Deposit	[illegible]	[illegible]	+0.18	
Property	[illegible]	[illegible]	+2.21	
Special Sits	[illegible]	[illegible]	+12.16	
Managed	[illegible]	[illegible]	+4.40	
Index-Linked Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]	+0.92	
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0202 292373				
[illegible]				
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ. 0707 42311				
[illegible]				
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL. 0793 514514				
[illegible]				
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. 0494 463463				
[illegible]				
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB. 081 534 5544				
Equity Acc	731.80	770.40	+2.00	
-do- Initial	514.10	541.20	+2.10	
Gilt Edged Acc	302.30	391.40	+0.70	...
-do- Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	+0.50	
International Acc	346.00	[illegible]	+8.30	
-do- Initial	243.60	256.50	+5.90	...
Managed Acc	458.00	482.90	+4.00	
-do- Initial	323.40	340.50	+2.80	...
Money Acc	275.20	[illegible]	+0.30	
Property Acc	233.00	[illegible]	+0.40	...
-do- Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	+0.10	...
America Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+21.30	...
Australia Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+8.30	
Financial Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+1.10	
500 Accum	382.00	402.20	+2.70	...
Japan Genl Acc	297.10	312.80	+15.30	
Income Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+2.90	...
Leisure Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	+1.10	
Special Sits Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]		
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834000				
The Managed Fd	707.82	707.82	+7.89	...
Income Fund	671.55	706.90	+4.24	...
Extra Income	616.39	648.84	+1.61	...
Worldwide Gth	436.97	459.97	+5.53	...
Balanced Fund	592.33	623.51	+3.57	...
Smllr Cos Recov	592.28	623.46	+5.42	...
N Amer & Genrl	370.51	390.02	+5.87	...
Pacific Basin	347.01	365.28	+3.24	...
German Growth	201.64	212.26	+4.28	...
Japan Growth	137.15	144.37	+6.32	...
The UK Gth Fd	188.95	198.90	+1.52	...
Contl Euro Gth	107.70	113.47	+1.01	...
Property Fund	337.32	355.08	+0.33	...
Fixed Interest	292.13	307.51	+2.34	...
Cash Fund	267.98	282.09	+0.13	...
Managed Inv	434.32	457.18	+4.95	...
Nth Amer Recov	240.81	253.49	+9.73	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	397.80	419.74	+6.90	
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire. 0475 868000				
Measured Perf	138.90	147.00	+1.80	...
Performance Plus	135.20	143.20	+1.90	...
With Profit Perf	157.40	166.60	-0.30	...
UK Opportunity	159.10	168.40	+2.10	...
Euro Opportunity	169.80	179.70	+1.90	...
North Amer Opp	138.90	147.00	+3.00	...
Far East Opp	145.30	153.80	+2.40	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	152.10	160.10		
Gth Prop Ser 2	148.70	157.40	+0.30	...
Fixed Int	167.10	176.80	+1.20	...
Cash	147.90	156.50	+0.10	...
Overseas	157.50	166.70	+1.60	...
CANADA LIFE 2-6 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA. 0707 51122				
Equity Growth	1238.60	...	...	
Managed	284.70	299.90	+4.20	
Property	192.50	203.00	-0.70	
Gilt & Fxd Int	222.90	234.70	+1.50	
Index-Linked	178.80	188.20	+1.40	
Equity	313.30	329.80	+2.90	
Cash	207.00	217.90	+0.20	
CLife Euro Mgd	304.50	320.70	+2.40	
CLife Intl Fd	312.10	328.50	+8.20	
CANNON ASSURANCE 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
Equity Units	£114.90	...	-1.90	...
Property Units	£25.19	...	-0.01	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£58.84	£62.26	+0.15	...
2nd Equity Acc	569.40	602.50	-2.60	...
2nd High Inc Ac	542.10	573.70	+4.90	...
2nd Property Acc	231.30	244.80	-0.20	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	170.30	180.20	+0.80	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	415.20	439.40	+3.00	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	200.90	212.50	+2.00	...
2nd Deposit Acc	265.90	281.40		
2nd Gilt Acc	275.40	291.90	+1.80	...
2nd Amer Acc	619.40	655.40	+19.40	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	255.60	270.50	+1.90	...
2nd Index Acc	181.80	192.40	-1.20	...
2nd Far East Acc	362.00	383.10	+4.10	...
2nd Global Acc	158.00	167.20	-1.10	...
2nd Euro Acc	136.30	144.20	+1.00	...
2nd Japan Acc	177.90	188.30	+8.00	...
2nd Heritage Acc	68.60	72.60	-0.10	...
2nd Intl Cr Bd Acc	157.80	167.00	+0.50	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	111.50	118.00	-1.90	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 0908 606101				
Property Fund	190.10	189.60		
Managed Fund	546.10	574.90	+7.30	...
Equity Fund	311.40	327.80	+5.30	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	245.40	258.40	-2.30	...
Ruby	136.00	143.20	+3.50	...
Emerald	133.00	140.10		
Equity	289.10	304.40	-0.20	...
Property	176.40	185.90	-0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	191.90	202.00	-0.40	...
Indexed Secs	155.60	163.80	-0.20	...
Cash	176.70	186.00	+0.10	...
Nth American	210.90	222.00	+5.40	...
Far East	235.60	248.00	+1.90	...
International	192.30	202.50	+5.10	...
Special Sits	253.00	266.40	+4.90	...
Intl Income	255.00	268.50	+1.20	...
American Inc	179.70	190.10	+4.70	...
European	247.90	261.00	+4.80	...
Japanese	118.70	125.00	+7.40	...
SE Asia	261.90	275.70	+4.50	...
With Profits Reg	144.70	152.40	-0.30	...
-do- Spec	144.70	152.40	-0.30	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	270.00	284.30	-2.30	...
Equity	328.90	345.90	-0.00	...
Property	171.00	180.10	-0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	227.70	239.70	-1.20	...
Index Linked	167.60	172.30	+0.30	...
Cash	231.00	242.00	+0.30	...
Nth American	259.60	273.30	+9.60	...
Far East Acc	247.00	260.00	-10.60	...
International Acc	243.00	256.80	+7.00	...
Special Sits	381.40	401.50	-5.70	...
European Flex	327.80	345.10	+7.60	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL 24 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD. 071 248 9861				
(Units), Key	3205.50	...	+3.87	...
-do- Pacemaker	3280.01	...	+7.82	...
-do- Cash	194.12	204.34	+0.13	...
-do- Equity	465.17	489.64	+13.69	...
-do- Fxd Int	341.70	359.57	+3.12	...
-do- Managed	340.14	358.04	+8.27	...
-do- Property	222.72	234.76	+0.23	...
(Pens) Cash Cap	204.58	215.36	+0.07	...
-do- Cash Inv	281.83	296.67	+0.23	...
-do- Equity Cap	1270.0	1348.3	+24.49	...
-do- Equity Inv	1761.9	1854.7	+34.96	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Fixed Cap	377.57	397.45	+3.92	...
-do- Fixed Inv	520.14	547.53	+5.78	...
-do- Index Cap	200.17	210.71	+2.03	...
-do- Index Inv	275.75	290.28	+3.00	...
Mngd Cap	518.59	545.89	+8.89	...
Mngd Inv	714.40	752.01	+12.74	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3. 071 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	£11.72	...	-0.11	...
Var Ann (5)	185.70	...	-0.55	...
Prime: Managed	350.30	368.80	+4.40	...
Prime: UK Equity	417.70	439.70	+3.50	...
Prime: Int Equity	263.70	277.60	+6.60	...
Prime: Property	193.80	204.00	-0.20	...
Prime Fxd Int	225.40	237.30	+0.70	...
Prime Index-Lnk	160.10	168.60	+0.50	...
Prime Cash	193.80	204.10		
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN. 0438 744840				
Managed Fund	983.60	1035.3	+6.80	...
Equity Fund	1405.2	1479.1	+16.80	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW. 0483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	525.10	550.60	+3.00	
Life Fxd Int Acc	344.00	362.10	-0.10	
Life Equity Acc	711.10	748.50	-0.20	
Life Money Acc	285.00	299.90	-0.20	
Life Inv Tst Acc	652.50	686.80	-6.20	
Life Intl Acc	455.10	479.00	+14.00	
Life High Inc Acc	668.60	703.70	-0.10	
Life Property Acc	215.30	226.60	-0.20	
Crown Brit Inv A	997.50	1095.1		
Brewin Equity	639.90	673.50	+6.20	
DBS Managed	237.00	249.40	+0.50	
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 0242 221311				
Secure Fund	165.50	174.30	+0.20	
Blue Chip Fund	220.30	231.90	+3.30	
-do- Series 2	140.80	148.30	+2.10	
Adventurous Fd	185.20	195.00	+9.30	
-do- Series 2	138.60	145.90	+6.20	
Performance Fd	224.90	236.70	+5.90	
-do- Series 2	144.20	152.90	+3.70	
UK Pref Fxd Int	138.00	145.30	-0.20	
UK Equity Fund	139.70	147.10	+0.40	
Property Fund	103.00	108.50	-0.30	
Environmntl Opps	140.40	147.80	+0.40	
Euro Fund	142.90	150.50	+1.60	
North Amer Fd	185.90	195.60	+5.70	
Oriental Ops	150.30	158.20	+3.10	
Japanese Fund	103.20	108.70	+7.30	
Bl & West Life	112.10	118.10	+0.10	
Bl & West Pen	123.50	130.00	+0.20	
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 071 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	249.10	258.10	+0.30	2.55
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH. 0722 413366				
Managed (Mixed)	268.80	283.00	+2.20	
UK Equity	354.00	372.90	+1.60	
Stewardship	308.30	324.60	+1.90	
Overseas Equity	241.20	253.00	+5.60	
North American	140.90	148.40	+4.90	
Pacific Basin	124.70	131.30	+3.20	
European	171.20	180.30	+2.90	
Property	181.10	191.10	-0.20	
Fixed Interest	207.70	218.70	+0.30	
Index Linked	152.50	161.00	+0.50	
Cash	188.20	198.20	+0.20	
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567				
GT Plan Far East	270.90	291.40	+6.70	
GT Plan Wwide	411.90	432.60	+6.20	
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR. 0904 628982				
Managed	180.90	190.40	+1.00	
Unitised Profs	119.40	125.60	+0.20	
UK Equity	245.90	258.60	-0.20	
Fixed Int	180.20	189.70	-3.10	
Index-Linked	154.80	162.90	+0.30	
Cash Deposit	165.70	174.30	+0.10	
Property	159.20	167.50	+0.20	
International	162.90	171.00	+1.60	
American	155.40	163.50	+4.50	
Japan	180.30	189.80	[illegible]	
Japan Smllr Cos	200.10	210.60	+11.30	
European	158.90	167.20	+1.30	
Pacific Fund	214.30	225.40	-1.30	
Conv Life	131.40	138.30	+0.30	
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE Gen Portfolio House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 0279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	635.90	675.90	+5.70	
-do- Inv A	635.80	669.30	+6.00	
UK Equity	364.70	384.00	+0.70	
Gilt Plus	197.50	207.80	-0.10	
Managed	276.90	291.60	+2.70	
Inter Man	350.30	365.40	+3.60	
GRESHAM UNIT 2-6 Prince of Wales Road, Bournemouth. 0202 752000				
Managed Bond	639.00	673.30	+4.10	
Money Fund	297.50	313.30	+0.30	
Equity Fund	571.90	602.60	+9.40	...
Fixed Interest	365.20	376.30	+2.40	...
Property Fund	328.50	346.20	...	
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	321.20	340.20	+15.10	
Income	446.70	461.90	+1.80	
International Gth	539.40	568.40	+11.60	...
Capital Fund	564.60	584.40	+3.10	
Recovery Fund	558.80	588.80	+8.50	
Japan & General	231.30	243.70	+9.60	
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange, London EC3. 071 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	625.40	661.90		
Managed Initial	412.20	437.80	-1.40	
-do- Acc	565.30	595.00	-1.60	

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Initial	598.70	630.20	-5.60	...
-do- Acc	821.10	864.30	-7.30	...
Fixed Int Initial	421.30	443.50	-4.20	...
-do- Acc	577.80	608.20	-6.00	...
Intl Initial	411.80	433.50	+10.60	...
-do- Acc	564.90	594.50	-14.80	...
Nth Amer Initial	181.70	191.20	-3.50	...
-do- Acc	226.80	238.70	+4.50	...
Pacific Initial	202.30	213.00	-6.30	...
-do- Acc	250.10	263.30	-7.80	...
Property Initial	150.00	157.80	...	
-do- Acc	205.50	216.30		
Index-Lnkd Intl	153.00	161.00	-0.40	...
-do- Acc	190.90	201.00	-0.60	...
Deposit Initial	192.60	202.70	+0.10	...
-do- Acc	264.10	278.00	+0.30	...
Euro Initial	83.90	88.30	+0.80	...
-do- Acc	96.80	101.90	+1.00	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 0277 200939				
Managed	146.60	154.30	+1.60	...
-do- Pens	174.20	183.30	+2.50	...
UK Equity	143.10	150.60	+1.50	...
-do- Pens	157.20	165.20	+2.10	...
International	129.90	136.60	[illegible]	...
-do- Pens	140.10	147.40	+3.30	...
Deposit	133.30	[illegible]	+0.10	
-do- Pens	152.90	162.00	+0.10	
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA. 071 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	349.90	372.30	+3.30	
North American	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Far East Fund	466.50	496.50	+8.50	
Global Managed	402.70	428.50	+7.00	
Deposit Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Prime Residential	[illegible]	[illegible]		
European Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	+1.90	
Fixed Interest	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
Security Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
British Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
International	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Dollar Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Capital Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Income Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Property Series A	[illegible]	[illegible]		
Property Units	[illegible]	[illegible]		
Financial Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
Managed Ser A	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
-do- C	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
Managed Units	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
High Yield Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Money Series A	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Money Units	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Equity Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Fixed Interest	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Indexed Secs	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
European Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Natural Res	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Far East Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Special Sits	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Mari Currency	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Japanese Tech	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
US Smaller Cos	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 3TF. 0727 46181				
Global Managed	493.50	519.30	+8.90	...
Global Property	[illegible]	[illegible]		
Global Fixed Int	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Global Equity	526.80	554.50	+9.90	...
Global Cash	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ. 0452 371371				
Gtd Mgd	444.50	468.20	+1.10	
Property	413.50	435.10	+0.50	
Managed	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
American	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
UK Equity Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Japan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Index-Lkd	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
High Yield	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Growth Cap	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Money	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
International	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Henderson Active	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Perpetual Active	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Growth Cap	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE. 0273 424000				
B Scc Lnkd Inl	[illegible]	[illegible]		
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Brit Opps Int	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Cash Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Equity Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Fixed Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Index-Lnkd Gilt	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Intl Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Managed Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Property Initial	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
-do- Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND 113 Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5ER. 031 550 5000				
Managed Fund	316.20	332.90	+3.30	
UK Equity	327.90	355.70	+2.20	
Property	271.30	286.20	-0.10	
Money Market	239.10	251.70	+0.50	
Fixed Interest	294.60	310.20	+0.90	
Japan	323.30	340.30	+15.90	...
North America	154.30	162.50	+5.00	
International	264.50	278.50	+6.70	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	238.50	251.10	+4.20	...
Far East	107.50	113.20	+2.40	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol BS1 6EA. 0272 279179				
Equity	£806.70	...	+7.90	...
Fixed Interest	£376.80	...	+1.90	...
Property	£337.00	...	+0.50	...
Deposit	£275.10	...	-0.30	...
Mixed	£524.30	...	+6.20	...
Indexed Stock	£198.40	...	-1.00	...
International	£251.90	...	+5.80	...
Equity A	£157.70	...	+1.80	...
Fixed Int A	£167.60	...	-0.80	...
Property A	£148.50	...	-0.20	...
Deposit A	£162.10	...	+0.10	...
Mixed A	£172.80	...	-2.00	...
Index Stock A	£155.70	...	+0.70	...
International A	£157.80	...	+3.80	...
Equity P	£852.70	...	+8.40	...
Fixed Int P	£483.30	...	+2.80	...
Property P	£270.50	...	+0.50	...
Deposit P	£317.20	...	+0.40	...
Mixed P	£473.30	...	+7.10	...
Index Stock P	£227.70	...	+0.90	...
International P	£284.90	...	+8.00	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 283456				
Inv Trust Cap	£523.30	...	+4.60	...
-do- Acc	£810.30	...	+7.30	...
Property Cap	£150.40	...	...	
-do- Acc	£235.20	...	+0.20	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£197.50	...	+0.80	...
-do- Acc	£297.20	...	+1.40	...
Equity Cap	£302.90	...	+3.40	...
-do- Acc	£460.50	...	+5.60	...
Internatl Cap	£220.00	...	+5.40	...
-do- Acc	£331.20	...	+8.40	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£171.00	...	...	
-do- Acc	£254.90	...	+0.10	...
Flexible Cap	£330.80	...	+4.30	...
-do- Acc	£501.90	...	+6.80	...
Moneymaker Fd	£396.90	...	+4.40	...
Capital Growth	£1455.6	...	+20.50	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB. 0245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	408.60	429.10	+15.90	...
Amer Rec Bond	453.10	475.90	-17.30	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	220.70	231.90	+7.30	...
Australasia Bd	173.90	182.20	+7.50	...
Commodity Bond	223.20	234.90	+7.40	...
Deposit Bond Acc	342.40	359.60	-0.30	...
Equity Bond Acc	1209.5	1270.0	+6.00	...
European Bd Acc	302.20	317.40	+4.90	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	597.30	627.10	-0.60	...
Far East Bd Acc	245.60	258.00	+3.80	...
Gilt Bond Acc	405.10	425.40	+1.90	...
Gold Bond Acc	92.00	96.70	+4.30	...
High Yield Bond	296.90	311.90	-0.50	4.91
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	198.40	208.40	-1.10	...
International Bd	634.40	666.20	+15.40	...
Japan Bond Acc	236.20	248.10	+12.30	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	199.60	209.70	+6.30	...
Managed Bonds	744.70	782.40	+11.50	...
Prop Bond Acc	295.20	310.00	-0.20	...
Rec Bond Acc	623.60	655.00	-3.70	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 0903 204631				
UK Equity	207.80	218.80	+0.40	...
UK Equity Acc	275.90	290.50	+0.80	...
Special Sits	84.90	89.40	-0.20	...
Special Sits Acc	112.80	118.80	-0.40	...
North American	139.70	146.80	+4.40	...
N American Acc	248.00	261.10	+6.10	...
Pacific Basin	302.00	317.90	+3.00	...
Pacific Basin Acc	401.00	422.20	+4.40	...
Fixed Interest	281.10	296.00	-2.80	...
Fixed Interest Acc	373.60	393.30	-3.50	...
Property	153.00	161.10	...	
Property Acc	203.40	214.20	+0.30	...
Deposit	150.10	158.00	+0.10	...
Deposit Acc	200.10	210.70	+0.20	...
Managed	237.70	250.30	+1.70	...
Managed Acc	290.90	306.30	+1.50	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts. 0438 356101				
Managed Fund	624.50	657.40	+5.00	...
Property Fund	474.10	499.10	-0.50	...
Equity Fund	775.50	816.30	-0.90	...
Gilt Edged Fd	561.40	590.90	-2.60	...
Deposit Fund	312.00	328.40	+0.20	...
Investment Fd	327.90	344.30	-0.40	...
International	501.30	527.70	+20.10	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS 91 Wimpole Street, London W1M 7DA. Admin: 0272 266366. Prices: 081 789 2945 or 0272 752297				
Property	392.10	412.70	+0.20	...
Equity Bond	309.70	326.00	+3.00	...
Money Mrkt Bd	498.00	524.20	+2.60	...
Deposit Fund	356.60	375.30	+0.30	...
Managed Fund	417.20	439.10	+0.90	...
Intl Equity	486.80	512.40	+10.10	...
Intl Managed	463.00	487.30	+7.60	...
North American	207.30	218.20	+7.00	...
Far East	346.80	365.00	+4.90	...
Intl Currency	257.30	271.00	+3.50	...
NM LIFE ASSURANCE Enterprise House, Portsmouth. 0705 827733				
Equity	151.80	158.70	+1.60	...
Fixed Interest	494.70	520.70	+1.70	...
Managed	632.60	665.80	+6.80	...
Deposit	319.60	336.40	+0.80	...
Property	373.70	393.30	-0.30	...
American	410.80	432.40	[illegible]	...
Australian	444.90	468.30	...	...
European	467.10	491.60	+6.00	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	267.20	280.20	+1.30	...
Global Managed	128.20	134.90	+1.40	...
Income Acc	691.50	727.80	+8.30	...
-do- Dist	441.90	465.20	+7.00	3.45
International	286.20	301.30	+5.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Smaller	392.80	413.40	+8.70	...
Singapore & Mal	254.70	268.10	+1.50	...
Smaller Cos	342.90	360.90	+16.00	...
Tokyo Fund	569.40	599.30	+29.60	...
UK Equity	346.50	373.30	+12.30	...
CCM Vangd Mg	654.10	688.50	-1.10	...
Equity Pens Cap	888.50	935.20	-13.50	...
NATIONAL PROVIDENT 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH. 071 623 4200				
Managed	428.70	451.30	+3.90	...
UK Equity	529.10	557.00	+2.20	...
Overseas Equity	431.50	454.30	+6.70	...
Americas	414.20	436.00	+17.10	...
Far East	424.90	447.30	+12.80	...
Property	194.10	204.40	-0.20	...
Fixed Interest	343.10	361.20	+0.90	...
Indexed Gilt	213.10	224.40	+0.60	...
Deposit	204.00	214.80	+0.20	...
NORWICH UNION ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 140, Norwich NR5 1PP. 0603 622200				
Managed Fund	1224.6	1289.1	+10.00	...
Eqty Fund	2682.8	2824.0	+12.40	...
Property Fd	433.30	456.10	-0.50	...
Fixed Int Fd	554.70	583.90	...	...
Deposit Fund	326.10	343.30	+0.40	...
Intl Fund	206.30	217.10	+3.90	...
PEARL ASSURANCE Pearl House, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SA. 0733 63212				
Inv Prop Dist	137.70	145.00	-0.20	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	262.30	276.00	+0.30	...
Inv Equity	1054.9	1110.5	+3.70	...
Inv Managed	731.70	770.30	+5.60	...
Ret Managed	801.00	843.20	+7.30	...
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS LTD Stramongate, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UB. 0539 733733				
Bal Gwth Mngd	693.00	737.30	+6.20	...
Cash Fund	318.80	336.00	+0.30	...
Property Fund	217.10	231.00	...	...
Equity Fund	802.00	853.20	-15.60	...
Fxd Interest Fund	425.70	448.60	-0.90	...
International	357.60	380.50	-7.60	...
High Income	621.40	661.10	+4.10	...
Far East	473.70	503.40	-10.80	...
North American	494.10	525.70	-21.40	...
Special Sits	563.50	599.50	-3.60	...
Technology	476.20	506.70	-16.20	...
Extra Income Fd	333.00	354.30	-2.00	...
Gilt Fund	454.10	483.10	-2.40	...
European	128.80	137.10	-1.30	...
Adventurous Mg	182.40	192.10	+3.90	...
Secure Mgd	131.60	140.10	-0.90	...
Equity Inc Dist	111.90	119.10	-0.70	5.08
North American	105.90	112.70	+1.00	5.77
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA. 0256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	268.80	283.60	+0.30	...
Fxd Interest Acc	212.30	223.60	-0.70	...
International Acc	224.50	236.90	+5.70	...
Managed Acc	194.50	205.10	+1.10	...
Property Acc	220.30	232.40	...	...
Money Acc	145.30	153.30	+0.20	...
Spec Sits Acc	192.70	203.30	-2.90	...
Japan Equity Acc	101.20	106.80	+6.90	...
N Amer Acc	157.00	165.70	+6.10	...
Pacific Acc	131.40	138.70	+3.20	...
European Acc	122.90	129.70	+1.70	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL William Road, Hitchin, Herts SG4 0LP. 0438 739000				
Managed Ord	413.90	435.70	+4.60	...
Managed Initial	295.30	310.80	+3.10	...
Equity Ord	627.00	660.00	+2.30	...
Equity Init	447.30	470.80	+1.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	192.20	202.30	+0.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	143.20	150.70	+0.10	...
Overs Equity Ord	322.50	339.50	+11.50	...
Overs Equity Init	230.10	242.20	+8.10	...
Property Ord	222.40	234.10	+0.30	...
Property Init	158.70	167.10	+0.20	...
Fixed Int Ord	260.90	274.60	+0.30	...
Fixed Int Init	186.20	196.00	+0.20	...
Deposit Ord	194.30	204.50	+0.10	...
Deposit Initial	138.90	146.20	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH. 071 405 9222				
Managed	299.60	312.10	+5.40	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP. 071 548 3278				
Managed Fund	665.60	700.70	+8.20	...
Equity Fund	1312.9	1382.0	+8.90	...
Intl Fund	506.90	533.60	+15.30	...
Fixed Interest	532.10	560.80	+0.60	...
Property Fund	376.60	396.50	+0.10	...
Cash Fund	345.90	364.20	+0.20	...
Pacific Basin	260.10	273.80	-6.90	...
N American Fd	225.10	237.00	+10.30	...
Euro Fund	225.00	236.90	+2.70	...
Balanced Fund	134.00	141.10	+1.00	...
Strategic Fund	136.90	144.20	+2.80	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 0733 390000				
Multi Grow (45)	1983.80	...	...	...
-do- Acc	386.10	406.50		
Op Prop	410.00	431.60		
Op Equity	897.80	945.10	-21.10	...
Op High Yield	534.40	552.00	+1.80	...
Op Managed	738.50	777.80	+10.90	...
Op Deposit	371.80	391.40	+0.40	...
Amer Smaller	...	...	...	...
Extra Inc	...	...	...	...
Gold Oser	...	...	...	...
Inc Gth	375.80	390.40	-10.70	...
Japan Perf	...	...	...	...
Japan Smlr	189.40	199.40	-12.00	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Natl High	...	...	...	...
Prop Shs	...	...	...	...
Managed Gth	225.20	237.10	-4.00	...
Gilt	78.60	82.80	+0.40	...
Amer (25.34)	...	...	...	...
British	319.60	336.50	-13.90	...
Global Bond	116.70	122.90	+0.20	...
Global (35.34)	161.00	169.50	+1.70	...
Gold Share	54.20	57.10	+3.80	...
High Income	266.00	282.20	[illegible]	...
Income	393.50	414.30	[illegible]	...
Japan	328.20	345.50	+16.40	...
UK Smlr Cos	269.40	283.60	+1.10	...
Mngd Growth	401.30	422.50	-0.20	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS. 051 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	862.40	912.50	+11.30	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	345.60	363.70	+4.50	...
Equity Fund	481.60	506.90	+3.20	...
Property Fund	245.20	258.10	...	...
International	396.20	417.00	+6.50	...
Pacific Basin	219.70	231.20	+6.20	...
United States	221.70	233.30	+8.60	...
Gilt Fund	328.80	346.10	+2.00	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	661.40	699.90	+5.50	...
Deposit Fund (2)	347.10	367.40	-0.20	...
Gilt Fund	474.70	502.40	-1.70	...
Global Equity Fd	198.20	209.80	+4.60	...
Property Fund (46)	89.20	94.40	...	...
AG Bond Fund	139.60	147.80	+0.70	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow. 041 248 2323				
Equity	492.60	518.50	-2.80	...
Fixed Interest	335.90	353.60	-0.80	...
Index-Linked	183.50	193.20	+0.40	...
International	375.60	395.40	+9.80	...
Property	239.40	252.00	...	...
Cash	218.00	229.50	+0.20	...
Managed	391.50	412.20	+0.80	...
Cap Gteed Bd	100.00	105.30	-0.20	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF. 031 556 9101				
Cash	170.85	179.84	-0.14	...
Index-Linked	149.30	157.20	-0.90	...
Fixed Interest	172.10	181.20	-0.60	...
Mixed	219.60	231.20	+2.60	...
UK Equity	212.40	223.50	-1.90	...
International	216.30	227.70	+4.40	...
American	239.30	251.80	-4.10	...
Japan	207.20	218.10	+13.20	...
European	212.70	223.90	+1.60	...
Pacific	285.80	300.90	+7.10	...
Technology	292.60	308.00	+5.20	...
Currency/Cmrncy	222.90	234.60	+1.90	...
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE. 031 225 2211				
Property	172.80	182.00	+0.10	...
UK Equity	317.40	334.20	-2.80	...
American	242.30	255.10	+5.20	...
Pacific	278.80	293.60	+8.60	...
European	409.40	431.00	+8.60	...
International	269.40	283.70	+5.30	...
Fixed Interest	228.40	240.50	+1.00	...
Index Linked	187.10	197.10	+0.80	...
Deposit	182.50	192.50	+0.10	...
Managed	272.80	286.20	+1.40	...
Worldwide	107.90	113.70	+1.30	...
Pen Worldwide	112.30	118.30	+1.80	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6321				
Flex Fund (25)	1457.8	1502.9	...	...
Safety Fund	214.30	226.00	-0.10	...
Growth Fund	204.30	215.50	...	...
Opportunity Fd	[illegible]	[illegible]	-0.30	...
Cash Fund	164.90	173.60	+0.10	...
European Fund	297.00	312.70	+2.70	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	182.40	192.00	...	...
Index-Linked Fd	169.90	178.90	+0.40	...
International Fd	252.40	265.70	+3.70	...
North American	229.70	241.80	+3.90	...
Property Fund	113.70	119.70	...	...
UK Equity	219.00	230.60	-1.00	...
UK Smaller	180.30	190.40	-1.00	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 556 9181				
Mixed	232.20	244.50	+2.10	...
Equity	245.10	258.10	+1.00	...
International	243.70	256.60	+5.70	...
Property	192.50	202.10	-0.20	...
Fixed Interest	211.30	222.70	+0.90	...
Index Linked	169.60	178.70	+0.40	...
Cash	177.60	187.10	+0.10	...
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU. 031 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	842.30	842.30	+5.40	...
Inv Pol 2	772.80	813.40	+5.30	...
Inv Pol 3	745.00	784.30	+5.10	...
Inv Cash	294.70	310.30	+0.20	...
Mixed Fund	403.60	425.20	+1.80	...
Equity Fund	478.00	503.30	-0.50	...
Property Fund	205.20	214.00	-0.20	...
International Fd	414.20	436.10	+5.80	...
Fixed Interest Fd	347.90	366.30	-0.60	...
Indexed Stock Fd	185.90	195.80	+0.40	...
Cash Fund	214.80	226.20	+0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX. 0703 334411				
Managed Acc	326.60	343.00	+4.50	...
Equity Acc	376.30	396.00	+5.20	...
International Acc	302.30	318.40	+7.40	...
Property	210.20	221.70	+0.30	...
Royal Trust Mg	215.00	226.30	+3.90	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 031 225 2552				
Cash	254.40	267.80	+0.20	...
Equity	885.20	931.80	-5.00	...
European	141.60	149.10	+0.90	...
Far East	136.10	143.30	+3.90	...
Fixed Interest	368.50	387.90	-1.00	...
Index Linked	194.40	204.70	+0.20	...
International	528.90	556.60	+10.10	...
Managed	616.80	649.30	+0.50	...
Nth American	148.20	156.10	+3.40	...
Property	302.20	318.20	-1.30	...
Pensions				
Cash	389.00	409.50	+0.40	...
Equity	1247.6	1313.3	-0.40	...
European	168.70	177.60	+0.90	...
Far East	105.10	110.70	+3.40	...
Fixed Interest	489.80	515.60	+0.80	...
Index Linked	268.60	282.80	+0.30	...
International	734.10	772.80	+16.40	...
Managed	848.00	892.70	+4.50	...
Nth American	186.20	196.00	+5.60	...
Property	383.50	403.70	+0.50	...
Stock Exchange	191.70	201.80	+1.00	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex. 0403 232323				
Managed Fund	572.70	602.90	+7.00	...
Equity Fund	769.60	810.20	+4.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	389.80	410.40	+0.40	...
Index-Linked Fd	287.90	302.10	+0.90	...
Property Fund	407.50	429.40	+0.40	...
International Fd	550.00	579.00	+14.60	...
N American Fd	220.10	231.70	+7.80	...
Far East Fund	176.10	185.40	+5.00	...
Deposit Fund	277.80	292.50	+0.20	...
International Bd	£72.36	...	+0.65	...
Worldwide Bond	161.40	169.90	+0.80	...
Worldwide Fincl	78.20	82.40	...	...
Worldwide Tech	92.50	97.80	...	...
European	138.10	145.40	+2.40	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	564.40	594.20	+9.30	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	380.00	412.00	...	...
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£465.40	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£637.10	...	+0.50	...
Agricultural Fd	£730.60	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£721.20	...	+0.60	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£374.80	...	+0.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£398.30	...	+0.40	...
Investment Fd	£302.40	...	+3.50	...
Investment (A)	£291.00	...	+3.40	...
Equity	£1110.2	...	+3.90	...
Equity Acc	£1067.3	...	+5.70	...
Money Fund	£439.40	...	+0.40	...
-do- Acc	£421.70	...	+0.40	...
Actuarial Fd	£517.60	...	+4.60	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£360.30	...	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	£383.30	...	+0.20	...
Retire Annuity	£967.40	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£293.00	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£213.30	...	+0.10	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basing View, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
Growth Account	£1276.9	...	+14.00	...
Managed Acc	£737.50	...	+7.70	...
Equity Account	£1049.8	...	+19.30	...
Mngd Fund Acc	342.40	360.50	+3.80	...
Equity Fund Acc	463.30	487.70	+9.00	...
Prop Fund Acc	221.40	233.00	-1.20	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	227.87	239.40	-4.30	...
Money Fund Acc	209.20	220.20	+0.40	...
Index-Lnk Sec Ac	195.60	205.90	+0.60	...
Pens Pens Acc	£1641.0	...	+39.40	...
Pens Mngd Acct	763.00	803.20	+19.20	...
Pens Guarantee	217.50	228.90	+0.30	...
Pens Equity	295.40	311.00	-10.30	...
Pens Property	228.30	240.30	+0.40	...
Pens Fixed Int	251.20	264.50	+1.00	...
Pens Intl	208.70	219.70	+3.90	...
Pens Money	219.30	231.20	+0.20	...
Pens Index-Lnkd	183.00	192.70	...	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL. 0272 426911				
Managed Acc	777.00	817.90	+3.20	...
Property Acc	277.30	291.80	+0.30	...
Equity Acc	1265.2	1331.8	-1.80	...
Fixed Int Acc	361.30	380.30	[illegible]	...
Index-Linked Acc	192.50	202.70	+0.40	...
Cash Acc	291.00	306.40	+0.40	...
Amer Equity Acc	356.80	375.60	+9.40	...
Japan Acc	260.60	274.00	+14.40	...
Pacific Acc	282.80	297.70	-4.30	...
Far Eastern Acc	663.00	697.90	+12.80	...
International Acc	488.90	514.70	+1.90	...
Distribution Fund	272.70	287.10	-0.30	6.07
European	153.40	161.50	+0.20	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 345678				
Managed Fund	252.90	266.30	+1.30	...
Property Fund	178.00	187.40	...	...
Fixed Interest Fd	209.40	220.50	+0.40	...
Money Fund	188.60	198.60	+0.10	...
Equity Fund	329.40	346.80	+2.10	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296 394000				
TSB Brit Gwth	727.20	765.50	+7.00	...
TSB American	196.80	207.20	+6.10	...
Australian	...	...	...	...
Deposit	236.00	248.50	+0.20	...
Residential Prop	90.80	95.60	+0.60	...
Financial Ser 1	39.90	42.30	-0.90	...
Fixed Interest	313.30	331.90	+0.20	...
Gold	68.40	72.10	+2.00	...
TSB Income	347.30	365.60	+4.70	...
TSB Intl	379.80	399.80	+7.60	...
TSB Pacific	314.80	331.40	+1.20	...
Managed	542.70	571.30	+5.80	...
Managed Prop	196.10	206.50	+2.60	...
TSB Prem Inc	237.50	250.10	+1.80	...
Property	252.30	265.50	...	...
TSB Intl Inc	278.20	292.80	+4.80	...
TSB European	224.50	249.00	+6.10	...

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Correspondence course for banks



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

There seems to be a new challenge for bank staff to devise alternative ways to levy charges. Lloyds must get this week's prize but it will be short-lived in these competitive times.

Managers have been sending letters to customers warning them that they may become overdrawn and charging them £10 for the privilege, even if they managed to take cash to their own branch and pay it in before the close of business.

Yesterday, managers received a letter from head office telling them to scrap the letters sent in anticipation of overdraft charges. Those customers who were charged for the letter even though they managed to pay in funds, on the grounds that it caused the bank manager work, should receive refunds. The managers will not be charged for the head office letters, but that ought to be the next money-spinning idea to go in the suggestion box. The bank says letters ahead of overdrafts have been sent for years but agreed the numbers might have increased in the recession as more customers came close to debt and managers charged for individual services.

American Express bank customers who have had agreed overdrafts received a letter this week telling them that their accounts are now suspended and will be closed one month from the date of the letter. It says: "I must therefore ask you not to issue any cheques or other payment instructions, as any items presented three days after receipt of the correspondence, will, unfortunately, not be honoured."

What about the customers who are not at home to read the letter within three days? The high-handed letter goes on to state that customers can transfer to another account, which has a minimum monthly repayment of 5 per cent of the outstanding balance and a £5,000 credit limit.

Those who do not have time to arrange another loan facility will have little option but to accept the new account. The company points out that it is withdrawing the overdraft facility because it no longer wants to provide unsecured lending in excess of £5,000 where the customer is only required to meet the interest payments. What a way to treat gold card customers. But at least they did not charge them for the mass mailing.

A colleague who has a robust relationship with her bank manager always asks whether she is being charged for letters and telephone calls. When asked directly, bank managers tend to say "no" if they want to keep the customer. Customers know that the massive losses incurred on loans to property companies and other business customers have to be paid for. They object to sharp practice. The customer who pays off £800 of a £801 credit card bill expects to pay a few pence for the privilege, not £15 or £20. The card issuer may be within its rights, but common sense ought to come into banking at certain stages.

Alienating good customers who might become overdrawn or who, for ease of cheque writing, round their payment down is not good business. The days when customers were afraid of their bank managers is fast disappearing. Perhaps it is because they are so fallible. When times are hard for everyone they have to be more careful to get it right first time and every time.

Taurus relief

Shareholders breathed a sigh of relief this week when the Taurus system of paperless share dealing was scrapped. They could see little advantage and a lot to fear. While stamp duty on sharedealing was to be scrapped when Taurus was finally in place, institutions have not been slow to levy new charges in anticipation of the system, which, no doubt, would cost a great deal more than was saved. But much more worrying for investors who have read about crooked brokers and fraudulent gilts managers is the lack of a certificate. The stacks of letters received by Weekend Money on this subject have expressed concern that people would never be certain that their investments were safe.

If they refused to put their shareholdings into a nominee account, investors were told they would be charged more under the Taurus system. If they allowed the shares to go into a nominee account, they would worry about what could happen if the broker went out of business and several people had a claim on the same stock. They have read too often of such disputes and, in the current climate, have felt relief when the share certificates arrived.

The stock exchange and all those developing the replacement strategy need to take account of the fears of investors and to make sure there is no risk to them, in that any losses will be remedied immediately.

If London is to be at the forefront of the securities world then all investors must feel confident that the system is designed with them in mind and not just to make money for the institutions.

Pre-Budget rush to join BES

Sara McConnell says that the urgency to buy shares in business expansion scheme companies is being fuelled by fears that loans secured on them could be blocked

NICK MALAND



THERE was a last minute flurry of activity in the business expansion scheme market this week by sponsors keen to get investors signed up before the Budget. Fears that the Chancellor could block loans to investors secured on shares in BES companies have fuelled a more intense "buy now while stocks last" urgency than in any previous year.

An estimated £150 million of business expansion scheme issues were launched this week or are still open, hoping to attract investors and close their issues before the Budget on Tuesday. So far, about £650 million has been raised under the BES this year, 90 per cent of which has gone into arranged exit schemes, including loanback schemes, which give investors a guaranteed exit through a loan.

Under Inland Revenue rules, higher-rate taxpayers can put up to £40,000 a year into a BES and receive tax relief at their highest marginal rate, as long as they hold onto their shares for five years. The loanback is a twist introduced recently to give investors a guaranteed exit after six months, instead of being locked in for five years, while still technically holding the shares to continue to qualify for tax relief. This refinement offers a quicker exit and better guarantees than any previous schemes.

Loans secured on shares in BES companies are offered by banks and building societies, which, in many cases, are selling repossessed properties to BES companies to let as assured tenancies in order to get them off their books.

There is no shortage of takers and many of the issues are selling out in hours. Would-be investors are casting envious glances at anyone lucky enough to have a hotline to early deliveries of prospectuses. The enthusiasm certainly overshadows that displayed before last year's Budget, when it was widely, and correctly, predicted that BES schemes would be abolished altogether at the end of 1993.

This week saw the launch of a £10 million issue, backed by the Royal Bank of Scotland and sponsored by Noble & Company, which will fund new residential accommodation for students at Lancaster University. After five years, the university is contracted to buy back the properties or the shares at £1.08 for every £1 invested, but if it cannot afford this, the Royal Bank of Scotland will buy the properties. The bank is also offering a loan of 74p for every £1 invested after six months. Such loans are secured on the investor's BES shares.

The Co-operative Bank is offering a similar arrangement to offer loanbacks to investors in Accumulus III, an £8 million scheme sponsored by Terrace Hill Capital. The company will buy and develop residential accommodation for students at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. The college will buy the properties back after five years at £1.06 for every £1 invested but the guarantee is underwritten by the Co-op. The bank is also offering a loan facility of 76p for every £1 invested.

A £50 million issue to raise funds for buying repossessed properties from the Britannia building society is still on offer through the sponsor Neill Clerk, a Glasgow solicitor. The scheme offers loanbacks from six months to three years from the Britannia. Another scheme, Unchained Growth III, is offering a contracted exit of £1.40 for every £1 invested. This issue is limited to £1.6 million and is also sponsored by Neill Clerk.

> Would-be investors are casting envious glances at anyone with a hotline to early deliveries of prospectuses

Johnson Fry has sponsored issues worth about £120 million in the past two weeks. It is the sponsor of a £25 million loanback scheme, launched this Thursday, with BNP Home Loans, the mortgage arm of the Banque Nationale de Paris. Another issue, of £5 million, sponsored by Johnson Fry, offers a loanback of 74p for every £1 invested after six months from National Westminster to investors in companies formed to buy property from Prowtings, the house building firm. The scheme also offers a fixed exit after five years of £1.06 for every £1 invested. Last week, the company sponsored issues totalling £90 million from the Leeds Permanent, National & Provincial and Portman building societies. The attraction of the loanback arrangement relies on investors receiving a large amount of tax relief to add to their guaranteed loan after six months. In theory, someone investing £10,000 in a BES can count on a loan of £7,400 after six months, plus £4,000 tax relief at 40 per cent, giving a total of £11,400. The sum works only for higher-rate taxpayers, as basic-rate taxpayers would be guaranteed less than they had put in. If investors do not receive their tax relief, they are left with a guaranteed return that is negative and no certainty that they will be able to get a certain price for their shares when the BES company is wound up in five years.

Mr Lamont is thought likely to announce next week that any shares in BES companies issued after Budget day will not qualify for tax relief if they are then pledged as security for a loan.

John Spiers, of *BESt Investment*, the specialist magazine, said those putting money into schemes before the Budget should be in no danger of losing their tax relief, even if the Chancellor did clamp down on loanbacks. The only danger may be in schemes that had not reached their minimum allocation, but Mr Spiers said this was unlikely as loanback schemes had proved so popular.

Charles Fry, managing director of Johnson Fry, believes it is more likely Mr Lamont will leave BES schemes alone on the grounds that all types of scheme were due to end on December 31, 1993.

Elderly pin hopes on National Savings

SAVERS who have seen returns on their nest eggs cut by more than half over the past two and a half years are hoping the Chancellor will follow the trend of recent Budgets and announce a boost for National Savings (Lindsay Cook writes).

For every borrower rejoicing at last year's five mortgage rate cuts, there are six savers in building societies feeling the pain of lower interest.

Older people, who rely on savings to supplement their pensions, feel it is their turn for a Budget favour. In last year's Budget, National Savings' First Option Bond was announced for basic rate taxpayers. In 1991, there was a new bonus bond for children; in 1990, savings rates were still on the way up. Income bonds increased from 12.5 to 13.5 per cent and investment accounts increased to 12.75 per cent. Investment accounts are currently paying 6.25 per cent.

A new-style "granny bond", limited to pensioners, is one option. The first such bond was launched in 1975. It had an initial investment limit of £500, later increased to £1,200. Then, inflation was running high: the bond promised to keep pace with it and paid a 4 per cent bonus at the end of five years.

Now, inflation is not the problem. People are more conscious of the falling value of their savings as they make withdrawals, than of the money's erosion by rising prices. Those with small amounts earn the lowest returns and cannot afford to take risks with their limited retirement savings. Often, they need to draw income and may need access to the capital during the investment period without penalty.

There is still more than £1 billion invested in granny bonds, though most of it is earning no more than the current inflation rate of 1.7 per cent.

At the end of December, £350 million remained in the first retirement issue and £610 million in the second. About £90 million of the latter still has a bonus of 4 per cent, to be earned on the 10th anniversary of purchase. Of the third issue, all bonds have earned the five-year bonus and are earning the inflation rate plus 0.5 per cent.

National Savings is having a successful year, contributing £4.1 billion to government funding in the first 11 months of the financial year — the highest total for more than a decade. Building societies have been squeezed; they took in only £295 million last year, the lowest total for 30 years.

Any new product would have to be carefully targeted and have a low investment limit, to avoid a repetition of last summer's fiasco. Then, the rate on the First Option Bond had to be cut within weeks of launch because a building society had put up its mortgage rate so that it could compete for savings.

The rate was cut for new investors twice more before the bond was suspended on November 12. In the five months and one week it was on sale, it attracted £847 million.

The star turn this year are fixed-interest certificates. They have attracted £1.8 billion, closely followed by index-linked certificates with £1.5 million. The latter pay 3.25 per cent plus inflation, tax-free over five years. The maximum investment is £5,000.

The biggest attraction is the income bond. This currently has £9.9 billion invested, compared with £9.2 billion for fixed-interest certificates.

National Savings has been given no target for its contribution to government funding, but with an increasing public sector borrowing requirement, more rather than less is likely to be wanted from the department.

Peps that promise a gilt-edged yield

FUND management companies are eagerly awaiting a widely predicted announcement by the Chancellor in the Budget that investors will be allowed to hold gilts through a personal equity plan. Many large companies say they are ready to act, with some already having held talks with the Inland Revenue to get plans approved (Sara McConnell writes).

Allowing Peps to hold gilts would mark a significant shift away from the government's original stated aim of encouraging wider ownership of shares by offering small investors a tax break. Gilts, which are sold to fund government borrowing, are less risky than equities and offer a fixed or index-linked return.

However, Pep managers say that changing the rules to allow gilt investments would have several advantages, not least for the Chancellor himself, who could cut his huge projected £50 billion public sector borrowing requirement by increasing sales of gilts through gilt funds and investors buying direct.

The Unit Trust Association estimates that gilt Peps could net the government up to £3 billion. A rule change would also remove some of the complexities of present legislation, whereby unit trusts with up to 49 per cent of their holdings in gilts qualify for inclusion within a Pep but holdings in gilt unit trusts do not. This has forced at least one company, Save & Prosper, to write to planholders in its High Income Pep portfolio, telling them that their plans will not qualify for tax relief after the end of this tax year.



Castiau: £115.5 million fund

Gilt Peps could also bring investors tax-free gilt yields of up to 8 per cent a year, while taking less risk with their capital than they would in equities.

Gilts are not liable for capital gains tax but income and capital gains earned on holdings in Pep plans are tax free. Investors are allowed to put £6,000 a year into a general Pep and, since 1992, have had an extra allowance of £3,000 to hold the shares of a single company. Mr Lamont reluctantly yielded last year to industry pleading and changed the rules to allow investors to hold their whole £6,000 allowance in unit trusts or investment trusts.

The Chancellor has several options next Tuesday, Pep providers believe. He could simply announce that from the beginning of the new tax year, all or part of the existing £6,000 annual allowance could be invested in gilt funds or directly in gilts. Alternatively, he could introduce an additional allowance of perhaps £6,000, making a possible maximum of £15,000 tax free investment a year. One suggestion is that retired people, who have in many cases suffered severely from falling incomes as interest rates fall, could get a larger annual allowance of something like £20,000.

There are about 40 gilt funds and 40 index-linked gilt funds but investors will have a wider choice if bond and fixed interest funds can also be included.

Framlington has £16 million under management in its gilt fund and says it is looking at how it can offer the fund within a Pep. The fund has a gross yield of 8 per cent, reduced to 7 per cent by a 1 per cent annual management charge.

Jain Castiau, assistant director (marketing), at the investment division at Barclays Unicorn said the bank's £115.5 million gilt and fixed interest fund has a yield of 8.63 per cent net of a 0.75 per cent annual management charge. There is a 3.5 per cent initial charge.

Essential reading

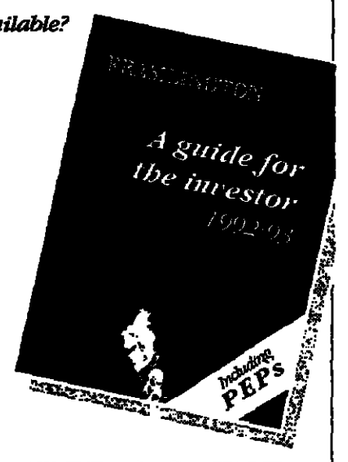
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Price must be paid for the security of guaranteed returns

By Margaret Dibben

THE word "guaranteed" is as appealing to investors as "tax-free". Therefore, guaranteed investments from insurance companies and building societies are selling well.

Legal & General's guaranteed equity funds are "selling a storm", a spokesman said. Donna O'Shea, manager of Chase de Vere's Moneyline department, said: "We have sent out thousands of application forms for our guaranteed income bond."

Scottish Amicable sold £22.5 million in six weeks with its first capital guaranteed bond: so far, the second is 40 per cent ahead.

Guaranteed investments of one type or another have been around for years. The oldest are National Savings certificates, gilts, annuities and guaranteed income bonds. Each guarantees something different.

It is the same with the new type of guaranteed products. Some guarantee that capital will not fall in face value, or that it will rise by a certain percentage. Others guarantee the amount of income paid out.

They achieve these guarantees in various ways but there is always a price to be paid for sleeping sound at night. By guaranteeing one side of an investment, inevitably another is sacrificed. The lower the risk, the lower the return.

It is important to understand the limitations of the word guarantee. It usually ignores the effects of inflation, which, at a modest 2.5 per cent, will take £116 out of every £1,000 over five years.

Building society guaranteed deposit accounts simply promise a fixed rate of interest for a limited period.

The Cheltenham & Gloucester guarantees to pay the best 90-day rate of any top ten building society at least until May 1994. Cheshire is paying 7 per cent gross for 12 months, and Chelsea guarantees 9.25 per cent gross for the next four months. Some guarantee the interest for one, two or three years but allow no withdrawals during the period.

More recently, some have started producing guaranteed equity investments in a bid to hang on to savers who are tempted away by unit trusts or personal equity plans. Bristol & West, Northern Rock, the Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester now have guaranteed capital or income investments.

> The more money put away safely to provide the guarantee, the less there is available for speculating

A capital guarantee usually promises that, on the fifth anniversary of investment, the same amount that was invested will be returned. The return could be greater but will not be any less.

These investments operate in a similar way to insurance company guaranteed bonds. Sun Alliance's bond was sold out this week. Terry Rhodes, assistant marketing manager, savings, said: "We are trying very hard to get another guaranteed product, but, with the fall in interest rates, the cost of providing guarantees has gone up."

To ensure they can support the guarantee, insurance companies divide the money into two parts. Most companies put the first segment, about 80 per cent, into fixed-interest investments to provide a known final value, but, as interest rates fall, closer to 90 per cent needs to be put on deposit.

The balance is used to buy shares to benefit from gains in the stock market, but, while this protects investors from stock market volatility, they are seeing growth on only 10 per cent or 20 per cent of the investment.

Bill Robertson, product marketing manager at Scottish Amicable, said: "The more money that is put away safely to provide the guarantee, the less there is available for speculating.

"If the stock market does well in the next few years, you can rest assured that your money is safe but you will lose out on the gains which unguaranteed investments are earning."

Another type of guaranteed investment, including the Scottish Amicable and Sun Alliance bonds, holds the bulk of investments in FT-SE 100 shares and then buys a put option to fulfil the guarantee.

These bonds pay dividends but most others do not, which could be a big loss as company profitability improves.

Bonds that guarantee an income, such as Scottish Widows' monthly bond, may use part of the capital to buy an annuity, money that is not repaid after five years.

Some five-year guaranteed equity products forbid early withdrawal, which would be disastrous if the market rose strongly for the first few years only to collapse on the fifth anniversary. As a protection, some lock in gains at regular intervals; some allow withdrawals but at a high surrender price.

Some investments express the guarantee as a percentage of the rise in the FT-SE 100 share index throughout the period of investment. This might be 80 per cent or 115 per cent of the FT-SE and the difference is usually explained because some companies quote gross returns and others quote net, a point of concern to the financial regulators.

Whatever product is bought, a guarantee should mean exactly that. Institutions have to find ways to ensure they can deliver their promises, but there is no cast-iron guarantee that it will work.

Investors with Birmingham Capital Trust's 12 per cent fixed-rate Tessa were transferred to a lower rate with another provider or forfeited tax relief when the Birmingham bank closed the loss-making account.

In the end, a guarantee is only as secure as the company that provides it, whether it comes from an investment house or a dry-rot treatment company.



ALAN WELLER

Guaranteed to raise a smile: Donna O'Shea, manager of Chase de Vere's Moneyline

Council tax appellants face a difficult ride

By Liz Dolan

A BARRAGE of complaints about council tax assessments is expected after April 1, from when people will be allowed to appeal. The government reckons more than one million appeals are likely to be heard by the new valuation tribunals. Most are expected to concern valuations, which were calculated after brief external inspections last year and were based on April 1991 house prices. Prices have fallen sharply since. Appeals are also expected from people who do not consider themselves liable for the tax.

The complaints system is supposed to be simple enough to allow people to put their own case. However, they will have to be familiar with a multitude of different regulations and procedures.

"It is a horrendously complex system," says Len Lucas, a London community worker who, along with two barristers, has put together a self-help guide for people wishing to appeal. He advises getting complaints in as early as possible after April 1 to avoid a logjam — the deadline for applications is November 30.

Mr Lucas said that, contrary to rumours, complainants do not lose the right to appeal if they have not paid the tax.

The tax is based on a two-person household, and most complications are likely to occur among households that do not conform to this, especially if several people live in the same house.

The complaints procedure differs according to whether appeals relate to valuations or personal liability. In the former case, complainants must first try and reach agreement with the local listing officer responsible for the original assessment. If this fails, the officer passes the complaint over to the tribunal. In the second instance, the first port of call is also the council but, if no satisfactory conclusion is reached, the complainant has to apply directly to the tribunal. Tribunals must give four weeks' notice of a hearing.

Mr Lucas is concerned that tribunal members will not have sufficient legal knowledge to make decisions based on complex pieces of legislation. He cites the example of a poll tax case involving a seaman who spent much of the year on board ship. It went all the way to the House of Lords before it was discovered that the tribunal members had been unaware of a basic point of law that would have allowed them to solve the problem themselves.

Whereas the old rates system had case law dating back 400 years, people dealing with the newer systems have virtually to make up the law as they go along. This has led to inconsistencies, Mr Lucas said.

Cutting Your Council Tax — A Guide to Appeals is intended to be a layman's handbook, "but it's a complex area and there's no getting round that", Mr Lucas said. The guide gives a step by step guide to complaints procedures, and how to prepare and present appeals. It also includes relevant law and looks at the background of local government taxation. It costs £5.50, plus 75p p&p, from *Council Tax Legal Services* (Publications), PO Box 2764, London. The authors are: Len Lucas, Hugo Charlton and Alan Murdie.

☐ Birmingham Midshires Building Society is offering a £40 revaluation service aimed at helping householders to judge whether or not it is worth appealing against banding assessments.

CORRECTION

LAST Saturday, Weekend Money stated that people wanting to avoid inheritance tax could make gifts of £5,000 to one person. This was incorrect. There is a £3,000 annual exemption for givers and the money can be shared by a number of recipients. We apologise for this error.



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*Source: Mintel for IFA Promotion. Wasted Tax Encyclopaedia, January 1993.

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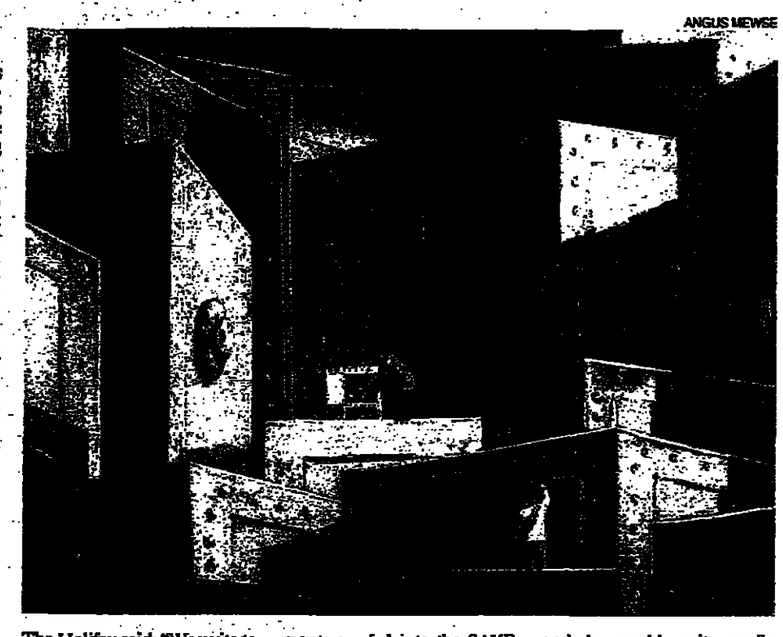
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Small savers rediscover the attractions of SAYE

By Liz Dolan

ANGUS MEWSE



A SCHEME that has for years been tucked away in an obscure corner of the savings market has suddenly become flavour of the month. Building societies report a leap in demand for Save As You Earn accounts as savers latch on to the tax-free interest rates that are much higher than for any equivalent savings vehicle. Fears of a reduction in SAYE bonus rates in the Budget provides extra piquancy.

The Halifax, which has been offering SAYE accounts since 1969, says thousands of new accounts have been opened this year, most opting to pay the maximum monthly contribution of £20. "People seemed to have forgotten about it until recently," a spokeswoman said. "It's always been a tax effective way of saving, but I think people are keener than they used to be to get the best rates."

At current rates, savers who leave the cash in the account for five years get a bonus equivalent to 14 extra monthly contributions. This figure doubles after seven years to 28 contributions. The maximum £1,200 investment therefore rises to £1,480 after five years and £1760 after seven. The five year bonus is worth 11.07 per cent to basic rate taxpayers, 13.83 per cent to higher rate payers. At seven years, the equivalent rates are 11.49 per cent and 14.37 per cent respectively. Once an account is opened, investors are locked in to the prevailing rate.

People who withdraw their money in the first year receive only the original investment, with no additions. Money taken out after the end of the first year but before the end of the fifth, attracts tax-free annual interest of 6 per cent or 8 per cent if the saver has died. Partial withdrawals are not allowed. Rates paid on money left in after seven years depend on the institution involved.

The Halifax said: "We write to people shortly before maturity. If we get no response, the money is transferred to a paid-up share account, which pays interest at our ordinary share account rate."

SAYE is a misnomer, as the scheme is open to anyone over 16, whether or not they have a job. The Halifax says: "There are quite a few instances of whole families opening accounts, presumably with dad funding the lot."

The only real drawback is the low ceiling on contribution levels. Bradford & Bingley said: "It's reasonably small beer of course. We tend to promote SAYE as part of a tax-free package, which also includes Tessas, Peps and Friendly Society Accounts."

The B&B's SAYE feeder account allows savers to pay in a lump sum of up to £1,200 at the beginning of the five years. While regular monthly payments are fed into the SAYE account, the balance is attracting extra interest, currently 4.125 per cent a year for basic rate taxpayers. At the moment, B&B guarantees that interest on the feeder balance will always be 5 per cent higher than that available on its basic share account. At the Alliance & Leicester, where new SAYE accounts have soared to around 200 a month, there are mixed views as to whether the Chancellor will announce a lower rate in Tuesday's Budget. "If he does, there will clearly be an even bigger demand before the new rate comes into force." The majority of ordinary savers do not tend to change investment decisions all that often and, without the additional publicity, most would probably remain ignorant of the scheme's attractions, a spokesman said. "But it's hardly going to make much difference to the PSBR, and he could quite easily decide it's not worth clobbering small savers for such small returns."

Abbey National was forced to stop offering SAYE accounts when it became a bank in 1989 and does not intend to start again. Those institutions that continue to offer SAYE accounts tend to see them as loss leaders that encourage customers to save and may, in time, lead them to buy other products.

Some of the fears associated with possible SAYE rate reductions have arisen because rates have been falling on the scheme's sister plan, the SAYE share option scheme. Bonuses on Series F, which replaces the existing Series E on April 1, have come down from 12½ monthly contributions to 9 after five years, and from 25 to 18 after 7. Maximum contributions were increased from £150 to £250 in 1991.

Bank alerted to mix-up by customers

THE shaky relationship between the high street banks and their customers was dealt a fresh blow this week when National Westminster admitted to a mix-up in the accounts of thousands of Visa cardholders (Liz Dolan writes).

Up to 15,000 people were wrongly debited, or credited, with amounts that, according to at least one report, could total more than £1 million. The bank said it had no idea that the mistakes had occurred until customers began to query inconsistencies on their accounts.

NatWest is still unable to identify all the accounts involved. The mix-up was publicly revealed by a Press Association journalist, who was one of those affected.

A spokesman said the problem occurred after 15,000 special cardholders were re-issued with conventional Visa cards in December when the bank ended its relationship with the World Wildlife Fund. When the first payments were credited to the new accounts in January, many were misdirected to other people's balances. "We don't know quite how many people were affected, but it couldn't have been the whole 15,000 as some payments were rejected by the system and applied correctly" he said.

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Life firms cash in on elderly's fears

PAULA YOUENS



Helen Pridham reports that while the option of guaranteed acceptance policies, requiring no medical examinations, appeals to older people, cheaper standard cover is available

INSURANCE companies are cashing in on older people's fears that they may no longer qualify for ordinary life assurance unless they are prepared to undergo rigorous medical checks.

Some companies are selling "guaranteed acceptance" policies, which are aimed at pensioners and the over fifties, which offer a fixed amount of lifetime insurance cover. But unless a person is in very poor health, a better deal could almost certainly be obtained under a standard policy.

However, the enthusiastic response to these policies shows that there is clearly a demand for life insurance from this age group that is not being satisfied elsewhere.

Barry Bunting, corporate direct marketing manager at Cornhill, said that sales of its Senior Security Plan had been "better than good, they have been brilliant".

Norwich Union has also found that its plan of this type has been the best selling of its directly sold products. Now, General Accident has launched a plan.

Stella Chapman, marketing manager at General Accident Life, said: "We have been researching the needs of the over fifties and discovered that many people think they are either too old or that medicals will be too long-winded to bother.

"Yet this generation is very concerned not to leave their spouses or their children behind with debts — or even the cost of their funeral — and a scheme like this is ideal to meet those needs."

The policies are normally open to men and women aged between 50 and 75 years. No medical questions are asked and the companies guarantee to accept every application from people in this age group, whatever their state of health. Premiums start as low as £6 a month: they are payable for life and a fixed level of insurance cover is offered. The policies are non-profit, whole-life plans.

However, to guard against too many losses as a result of people taking out policies knowing they are at death's door, the insurers normally give reduced benefits during the first one or two years of the policy, if death is due to natural causes.

At Cornhill, a return of premiums only is given in the first year. General Accident will give a return of premiums plus 15 per cent interest during the first two years. Sun Life and Norwich Union are the most generous. They give back the premiums and half as much again during the first two years.

Accidental death during the initial period is fully covered. Indeed, some of the policies pay extra if death is the result of an accident.

At Norwich Union, the payment is doubled. Sun Life pays a triple benefit, although, oddly, this extra is only payable if the death has occurred as a result of an accident while travelling in a private car or as a fare-paying passenger by road, rail, sea or air.

Premiums on the policies are payable for life. So what happens if a policyholder wants to cancel? Again there are differences between the plans. General Accident and Cornhill return no cash.

Mr Bunting said: "We [Cornhill] wanted to keep it simple. It is a protection policy and not a savings plan."

Sun Life's policy does acquire a cash value after five years, but the company gives a warning that it will be less than the premiums paid.

Norwich Union's plan, on the other hand, will have a cash value from the end of the year.

Apart from weighing these features against the level of life cover provided, potential policyholders should consider alternatives.

If the person is in reasonable health, they will have no problems taking out an ordinary non-profit, whole-life policy, which will give far better value for money.

Most companies will accept proposals from people up to 75. A proposal form will have to be filled in, giving details of medical history but neither a medical examination nor a report from a GP will be required automatically.

Unless the health of the person seeking insurance gives serious cause for concern, no insurer normally asks for further medical evidence unless the amount covered is above a certain level. For example, at age 60, cover can typically be taken out for up to £40,000 to £50,000 before a medical examination is required, and up to £25,000 before the family doctor is contacted. Even at age 70, insurance cover of about £5,000 or more is likely to be provided without a medical examination.

According to Investment Intelligence's Masterfile, General Accident has the cheapest ordinary non-profit, life cover for non-smokers. Using this route provides more cover and the other advantage is that full cover will be paid out from day one, regardless of the cause of death.

However, policyholders also need to question whether non-profit, fixed-sum cover is such a good idea in view of inflation. It is because of inflation eroding the purchasing power of fixed amounts that relatively little non-profit life insurance business is done today. Even at 5 per cent per annum inflation, the money will lose nearly 40 per cent of its real value after ten years. People in their fifties or sixties who are likely to live well into their seventies or eighties could find their cover is worth little at the end of the day.

A with-profits policy can give similar, or higher, levels of cover compared with a guaranteed acceptance plan, and even as soon as two years later, the cover will start to increase through the addition of with-profits bonuses.

For older people in really poor health, a guaranteed acceptance plan certainly has advantages. However, for the rest, they are a costly convenience.

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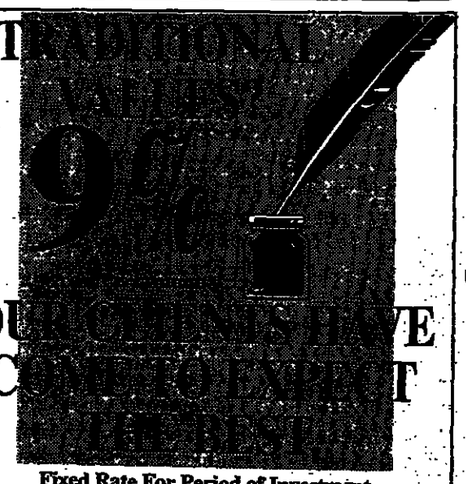
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ADRIAN BROOKS

Getting to the roots of commerce: fruit, vegetables and candle holders are the products Anne-Marie Mayer, left, and Simone Kay are bartering

Age-old barter system is revived

By Julian Lee

THE full might of Norman Lamont's financial wisdom is facing a challenge from an unlikely quarter. In the heart of Mr Lamont's Kingston upon Thames constituency, 80 members of the Beacon Environmental Centre have chosen to rely on the "beak" rather than the pound as the basis of their thriving micro-economy.

It is only one of 30 nation-wide barter exchange schemes, or local employment and trading schemes (Lets), that use their own form of exchange unit.

On the centre's notice board is an array of services on request and offer ranging from plumbing and caring to carpentry and hairdressing. For the small fee of 5 beaks (a beak is roughly equal to £1 or ten minutes' work) anyone can join and add to the growing list of services on offer. They will be issued with a cheque book to record credits and debits.

Anne-Marie Mayer, the co-ordinator, said: "People's time is offered at the proper rate. It is mainly services that we provide rather than material goods. We are, after all, in a service economy.'" Miss Mayer offers nutrition counselling, babysitting and massage. In exchange, she has had decorating done, received lifts and had her bicycle repaired.

The group hopes to recruit more members from the local community, which has been affected badly by the recession, encouraging them to look on the system as a way of circulating services within the community without taxing their income.

The scheme, however, is coming under the scrutiny of the Inland Revenue as tax officers seek to determine when the scheme ceases to be a local service and becomes part of a trade or profession.

Angus Soutar, a small business adviser to the network, explained that the issue has yet to be clarified: "The Revenue will not be interested in the beak but rather the value of the exchanges taking place according to the going rate of the job."

Those involved in transactions set the value themselves and there is no difference between professional and manual services. The parties are left to negotiate and, as long as they are happy with the exchange, the system works. Miss Mayer said: "We are trying to get away from the traditional structure of evaluation and to put things on a more equal footing."

The system relies on a basis of trust and understanding, yet even that is not left entirely to the whims of market forces

As yet, the fledgeling schemes are on a small scale. The system relies on a basis of trust and understanding, yet even that is not left entirely to the whims of market forces; monthly statements inform members of their "balance of account". Those in credit are encouraged to "spend". The centre's efforts to recruit more members might be hampered by the social security department's stringent rules, which could deter people from joining if they risked a cut in benefit. Income support is not affected as long as a person is actively seeking work and not working more than 16 hours a week.

More than half of the present membership is unemployed and Lets are targeting their recruitment drive at this sector of the community.

One argument is that the system is not taking revenue away from the local economy but rather allowing members economic breathing space to pay essential items such as gas and electricity bills.

Miss Mayer said: "We would rather work for the system than have workfare thrust upon us."

Jim Thomas, senior lecturer in economics at the London School of Economics, said: "It really seems like the old-style black economy whereby you do my accounts and I'll give you a case of wine. It has got a negative side, but if kept on a small scale it could generate money for the local community."

There are plans to set up five more schemes in the south-west of London. With dreams of wide-scale growth, unfettered by Keynesian principles, firmly in their minds, the co-ordinators feel proud they have achieved so much in less than a year. Their goal is to have 500 members. The seeds of expansion has been sown: Kingston's unemployment toll has risen 200 per cent in three years to more than 5,500.

Miss Mayer believes there is a call for Lets in many areas and market forces will eventually prove it.

"Norman Tebbit would be proud of us, we are embracing Conservative values and getting on our bikes," she said.

As for Mr Lamont, Miss Mayer added: "We have invited him to come and have a look at what we are doing. You never know, he might learn something."

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☐ The Bank of Scotland has introduced a financial newsletter on tape for blind and partially sighted customers and is planning to introduce large print and "talking" statements within the next few months. These record information from computer disc directly on to a cassette to preserve confidentiality. The bank already produces Braille statements.

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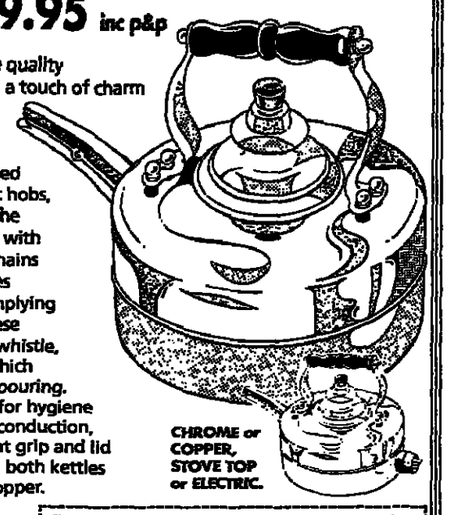
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Phone fraudsters target Britain

BY TONY HETHERINGTON

POLICE in Toronto have arrested 64 people in a crackdown on what is alleged to be an international ring of investment swindlers preying mainly on senior citizens outside Canada. Ninety officers raided three investment companies simultaneously. All are said to use high-pressure telephone calls to market overpriced gemstones or investments in obscure metals.

During the past four years, Canadian-run companies based in Amsterdam and Antwerp have taken millions of pounds from British investors who trusted false claims made in glossy brochures and over the telephone. Those companies have been closed, but the frauds are allegedly continuing from Canada and elsewhere — often aimed at people who have been cheated already.

On the second approach, an offer is made to buy the investors' gemstones back, normally at a huge profit to the investor. A Toronto police spokesman said: "The pitch usually was that there was a foreign buyer who wanted to add certain stones to his portfolio." Investors are invited to buy one or two gems needed to turn their collections into exactly those allegedly wanted by the foreign buyers. But once the additional gemstones have been paid for, the foreign deal evaporates. Toronto police have received more than 2,000 complaints of such swindles.

Tony Slot, the detective who led the raids on the three companies, said many fraudsters were turning away from gemstones and moving into a new field, investment in so-called "strategic metals" such as indium. One British victim of Canadian swindlers is Major Christopher Davey, a retired army officer. He bought a ruby, an emerald, and a topaz from Larry Stevens, Canadian president of the Royal Antwerp Group, investing about £25,000. The stones were supposed to be sold at auction in New York for an estimated £150,000. But no auction took place and Royal Antwerp was closed down by the Belgian police.

Major Davey was then approached by several new gemstone companies, clearly working from Royal Antwerp's client list. One, Divine Jewels of Toronto, persuaded him to part with a further £2,000 for two new gems. These, Major Davey was assured, would turn his collection into one for which Divine had a ready buyer.

No buyer emerged, and Toronto police have confirmed that Divine Jewels and its president, Elliott Feder, are known to them. Overseas complaints are currently being compiled by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Another company that approached Major Davey from Toronto was Nepon Group Exchange, which offered more than £153,000 for his gemstones — if he would invest a further £6,700 in one more ruby. Major Davey refused — rightly, according to Mr Slot, who is familiar with Nepon.

The companies raided by Toronto police were Hampton House Metals, Cherbourg Investments, and Transworld International Investments. Detectives estimate, though, that up to 40 such high-pressure telemarketing investment firms operate from Toronto.

The taxing question of when to keep one's own company

Lindsay Cook looks at the benefits of arranging for your salary to be paid to your private firm



Director-general: John Birt, now employed by the BBC

THE use of a private company by John Birt, the director-general of the BBC, has raised the question in many households of whether they could be better off if the breadwinner set up a private company to receive his or her pay.

Everyone's situation is different, but here are some of the more general questions answered.

When does it become worthwhile to be paid via a private company?
Few people earning less than £100,000 a year could save enough tax to cover the fees associated with the change from employment to director of a personal company. The compliance and auditing costs are likely to be a minimum of £1,500. Many with larger salaries would still be out of pocket because the expenses they could legitimately set against the company's tax bill would be few and far between.

When is it most beneficial?
If an employee has a non-working spouse or one that is working hard to develop his or her own business with little success, there is more scope for gain. A wife who answers the telephone all day, prepares the value-added tax accounts, makes sure there is enough stationery to handle correspondence and who is a dab hand with a fax machine should be paid. Large companies will not entertain paying an employee's spouse for his or her support services but a private company can and does pay for the services, at whatever it deems to be a fair rate.

Can a couple still save tax if the spouse has no time for secretarial duties?
Yes, if the spouse is a shareholder, he or she can receive dividends. This enables a couple to use the personal tax allowances of both of them and the lower rate tax band of both. This saves 40 per cent tax on £3,445 and 15 per cent — the difference between higher and basic rate tax — on the next £23,700. There are no National Insurance contributions to pay on dividend income either. But a husband employing his wife also has to pay the employer's National Insurance contributions and she has the employee's National Insurance contributions deducted from her salary.

How can suits be set against a company's tax bill and not those of an employee doing a similar job?
A company can decide that all its staff should wear a certain type of suit and can set the costs of their corporate image against their tax bill. However, the employee can be taxed on the benefit of having clothing provided. In this way, a private company may pay £10,000 for designer suits and the director who wears them will have to pay tax on one fifth of the value each year they are worn. This would work out at £800 a year on £10,000 for a higher-rate taxpayer.

The company will decide what sort of car its director should drive and the Inland Revenue will allow the costs to be set against the company's tax bill. The employee will be charged according to a scale set by the Revenue, which is less than the cost of the car. The more expensive the car the better the bargain for the employee as long as he or she completes 2,500 miles a year for the company. However, the Revenue will not allow the cost of travel from home to an office as a business expense and will scrutinise the accounts of a private company that receives a lot of fee income and then uses it all.

Are there any pensions implications?
Many people who started to operate a private company years ago now feel they cannot move because their pension contributions will be capped. Since 1988, annual pensionable earnings have been capped, currently at a level of £75,000. The capped amount rises in line with the retail prices index every year. While their existing pension will allow their employer to pay more into the scheme free of tax, the scheme is unlikely to offer final salary benefits. For higher paid employees, a final salary scheme takes account of the much higher earnings in the years towards retirement. A money purchase personal pension can only pay out what the lump sum can provide.

Is there a downside to the private company?
The private company has to pay the employer's National Insurance contributions as well as the employee's contributions. Should the larger company using the services of the private company decide to dispense with these, then there is no golden handshake and no unemployment pay. The Revenue may also take up a lot of time querying whether items were bought wholly and necessarily for the company and not for the pleasure of its directors.

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Pearl measures consumers' investment confidence

BY SARA MCCONNELL

CONSUMERS have become more enthusiastic about investing in savings schemes, such as personal equity plans, shares, unit trusts and building society accounts, since the beginning of this year, according to a consumer investment index launched this week.

The index, which is based on a monthly survey of 2,000 people by Gallup for Pearl Assurance, started collecting data on savings intentions last December. Respondents were asked whether they were likely to invest in shares, Peps, tax exempt special savings schemes, unit trusts, investment trusts or investment bonds. The index, which calculates the total number of investors already holding or likely to hold such investment, was set at 2,600. It stood at 2,448 points in December and after falling to a low of 2,242 in January, rose to 2,576 this month. Part of this rise can be attributed to investors being keen to use up Pep allowances before the end of the tax year on April 5.

Martin Fox, Pearl's general marketing manger, said the increase in investment intentions had "been consistent across the range of products, including both equity-related products, such as shares and Peps, and also interest-bearing products such as Tessas and building society accounts".

The Central Statistical Office this week reported a £151 million rise in net consumer credit this month, the largest since July 1991. In the three months to January, net credit was up £273 million, compared with a fall of £22 million in the quarter to October. Credit card lending showed a net rise of £40 million after five months of decline. The figures were hailed as evidence of returning consumer confidence, as people took on more debt than they repaid.

Pearl's consumer investment index is an extension of its monthly investor confidence index, launched in March 1991, which measures levels of public confidence in the stock market. Until now, information on individuals' investment intentions had been included in the investor confidence index, with those who already had some savings or investment being asked if they planned more. For the first time, the new index includes information on investors' intentions to put money in building society accounts.

> For the first time, the new index includes information on investors' intentions to put money in building society accounts

Consumer confidence in the stock market has continued to fall in the first three months of this year. From a base of 100 set in March 1991, confidence has registered at 90.8 per cent in January 1993, falling to 88.6 per cent in February and 85.2 per cent this month. However, the confidence of the highest socio-economic groups increased from 46 per cent in February to 49 per cent in March, while that of company directors increased from 58 per cent in Feburary to 62.5 per cent in March.

Mr Fox said: "In an environment of falling confidence in the stock market, the general increase in consumer investment intentions shows that the public does not yet believe that the recession is over and, as yet, they are unwilling to forgo their savings in favour of increased consumer spending." Company directors' increased confidence in the stock market was "particularly encouraging." Mr Fox said, "since, historically, their shifts in opinion precede similar movements in other groups. However, until this confidence is shared across every category of respondent included in the Gallup survey, it would be premature to say that the British economy has turned the corner out of the recession." Data for both indices is collected through interviews with 2,000 people each month.

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DON'T MISS OUT

Ground rent hurdle for leaseholders

Sara McConnell says thousands of leaseholders who are paying high ground rents will be prevented from buying their homes if present government proposals are enacted

SUPPORTERS of leasehold reform have again called for the overturning of government proposals which would exclude homeowners paying high ground rents from being allowed to buy the freehold of their property.

The House of Lords will debate the hotly contested "low rent test" provision of the Housing and Urban Development Bill on Monday. If it goes through, thousands of leaseholders with ground rents set at more than two thirds of the rateable value of the property or, for leases granted after April 1 1990, £1,000 in London and £250 elsewhere, will not be allowed to become freeholders.

This week, the bill narrowly survived being thrown out altogether as it began its passage through the Lords. Landlords argue that the provisions of the bill are confiscatory and fear the break up of the great estates. The Duke of Westminster, who owns large parts of Mayfair and Belgravia, is withholding donations to the Tory party in protest.

An estimated 750,000 flatowners will have the right to buy their freeholds or extend their leases if the bill passes into law, extending the rights already given to owners of leasehold houses under the Leasehold Reform Act 1967.

Joan South of the Leasehold Enfranchisement Association said the outcome of Monday's debate was "appallingly serious". Many landlords granting leases over the last decade had set ground rents just above the limit where the leaseholder would be eligible to buy the freehold, said Mrs South. She believes thousands of people may be affected.

The government is insisting on a low-rent test because it is wary of giving enfranchisement rights to those it classifies as renting tenants rather than owner occupiers. However, Mrs South said most of those failing the low-rent test had full repairing leases and many had spent a lot of money on upkeep of their homes.

One of these people is Patricia Loder-Dyer, who has lived in a house on the Cadogan Estate in central London for more than 40 years. Her lease runs out in 1995 and her landlords refuse to extend it. When they moved in, she and her husband almost reconstructed the whole property.

Paul Gurowich of the Consumers' Association said one hope for some people caught by the low-rent test was an amendment put down by several members of the Lords that the low rent threshold should be set at £300. Mr Gurowich said 95 per cent of people pay less than £300 in ground rent. However, supporters of reform would prefer the threshold to be abolished altogether.

Next week, the Lords will also debate the formula to be used when working out the value of a freehold and compensation for landlords forced to sell. The formula will be based on the price landlords could have got if they had sold their freeholds and extended leases on the open market but is likely to vary according to circumstances.

Leasehold enfranchisement supporters fear that many flat owners may not be able to afford to buy their freehold, even if a two-thirds majority of owners in a block agree to become freeholders. Owners of flats which are technically enfranchisable but who cannot or do not wish to buy the freehold will not be able to extend their leases as an alternative.

An amendment which would have restricted the right to buy the freehold to flatowners who had lived in their flat for three years was rejected in the Lords this week. Such a restriction would have made it much more difficult for tenants to qualify to buy the freehold in a block because the turnover of owners of flats is high. The Lords also rejected an amendment which would have exempted charities from being forced to sell their freehold interests. The charities said returns from their property holdings were an important source of income for their charitable causes.



Pillar of the leasehold reform establishment: Patricia Loder-Dyer outside her home

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Credit market forced to target women

BUILDING society and bank managers who patronise women could be a dying breed (Sara McConnell writes). Unfortunately, in some cases, this is mainly because they have to find new customers in a recession, financial advisers and researchers say.

As International Women's Day passed on Monday, the overwhelmingly male European Commission promised it would make greater efforts to ensure equal opportunities at home and at work.

Meanwhile, Paul Hersey, senior financial analyst at Mintel, the research company, who will publish a report on debt next month, said women had become favoured targets for credit and store cards as well as mortgages. Companies reasoned that credit cards could be more use to women now that they were accepted in supermarkets. Stores were also keen to attract women as they are believed to shop more than men.

Mr Hersey has also found that mortgage lenders have been treating women differently over the past two or three years, coinciding with the slump in the housing market, overcoming their reluctance to lend to single women. However, women were not believed to be as interested in taking out unsecured loans, Mr Hersey said. Mintel has found that finance houses offering unsecured loans emphasise the traditional, bread-winning role of the man.

Lorrie Otway, an adviser at WI Carr Financial Services, said: "There is no problem with banks and building societies selling to women. Anything they can sell they will sell. Sadly, people still think that if it is their bank, it must be all right." High street branches were particularly keen to sell their own life assurance and pension policies, which were not always the best, Mrs Otway said.

However, not all bank managers are driven by the need to make a sale. Research by Mintel, carried out in 1991, revealed that women frequently found they were being talked down to by men in the financial services industry.

Anthony Fraser, a director of Fraser Marr, the independent financial adviser, said: "Twelve years ago, we tended to deal with the husband as a matter of course. Now, a large proportion of our enquiries come from women and if a wife approaches us, we are very careful to respond to the wife rather than the husband." The firm found two years ago that two thirds of families were relying on the second income from the female partner to make ends meet. There has been a noticeable shift towards women taking more of a lead in financial decision making, helped by an increase in the number of female financial advisers.

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Problems of trustees being leaned on by management

From Mr David Wright

Sir, In addressing the problem of pensions still being pillaged, you rightly highlight the value of trustees who are prepared to fight their members' corner. Many companies, of all sizes, have established occupational pension schemes with trustees partly drawn from members in the workforce (by election or other means), and partly appointed by the company. However, in whichever category, trusteeship is usually reserved for those who are employed by the company. A chief executive who is ruthlessly determined that the best interests of the company as a whole would be served by reducing or withholding the company contribution to the pension fund or otherwise misusing its resources, has many weapons to hand to deal with a recalcitrant employee trustee, — early retirement, redundancy, appointment to a job where the location or demands of the job make it best that "you withdraw from your trusteeship of the pension fund for the time being. Old Chap". In today's climate most employees are all too conscious of the possible personal danger in rocking the boat at this level, even if the situation is not superficially threatening.

Legislation must provide for some trustees to be financially independent of the company operating the scheme.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WRIGHT,
Nyetimber,
Chiltern Road,
Amersham,
Buckinghamshire.

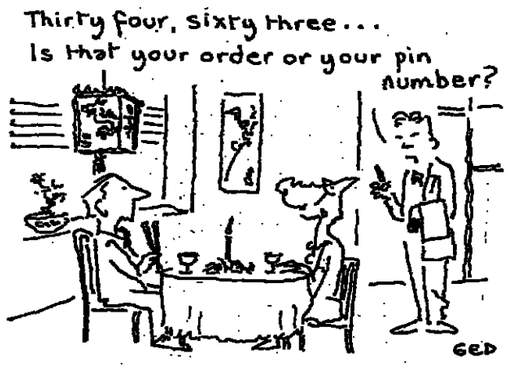
Tackling an age-old question of sexism

From Mrs Margaret Clark

Sir, With reference to Sara McConnell's column on the taxman's offer to married couples (Weekend Money, March 6), she states correctly that those over 65 years of age can still only transfer the basic of £1,720.

During 1993-4, I shall be entitled to a higher rate of age allowance than my husband — but I don't get it, he does! Something needs to be done about that.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET CLARK,
Springwood,
36 Pondtail Road,
Horsham,
West Sussex.



Fraud reduction on the cards in France

From Mr Jerry Morton

Sir, I seem to remember reading that card fraud in France had been greatly reduced in recent years through positive action by the card companies. As a regular visitor there this has become increasingly apparent with the emergence of small portable — to a table at a restaurant for example — card swipe machines into which you input your own personal code number to confirm the sale rather than signing for it.

Given that individuals are now issued with a personal number to be used in tandem with a card so that they can withdraw cash, it would appear a simple matter to extend this principle to combat fraud rather than rely on an overworked shop assistant to spot a falsified signature.

If the technology is right, clearly this will place an increasing emphasis on cardholders to keep their personal number out of harms way, but that is surely common sense anyway.

For multi-card holders it might present a severe memory test, but this would open the way for introducing a single card for all transactions which contains a number of separate microchip facilities which are only activated by the relevant machine — Switch, Access, Barclaycard, Visa, Store Card etc.

It sounds so simple I suppose there must be a reason why it hasn't been implemented.

Yours faithfully,
JERRY MORTON,
104 Haldon Road,
SW18.

One-man firms have a downside

From Mr Nicholas Pye-Smith

Sir, Before all your readers quit their jobs and set up one-man companies it would be fair to warn them of some pitfalls which can detract from the tax advantages described in your report (Weekend Money, March 6).

One problem is that if the work dries up it is impossible to claim unemployment benefit, even though Class 1 National Insurance contributions have been paid in full.

This is because you continue to be an employee of your company — and you are not unemployed even though you have no work.

Secondly, the law is not sufficiently precise about what expenses are allowed. This means that individual tax inspectors are able to use their considerable powers of discretion when they are deciding what to allow.

The Taxpayer's Charter is supposed to eliminate differences in the way similar cases are treated; however, it is still not working properly. It can be a very expensive mistake to take a different view from your own particular tax inspector about what is a legitimate business expense.

The problem arises from the duty of the company to pay National Insurance contributions on the remuneration of its employee. If you claim expenses which are subsequently deemed not allowable, the payment is treated as net remuneration after tax and NI contributions, which should have been deducted.

For example, a payment of £660 to cover travel and hotel expenses would be treated as the net result of gross remuneration of £1,000 from which £250 income tax and £90 employee's NI contribution should have been deducted. The employer's NI contribution of £104 results in a total demand on the company of £444.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS PYE-SMITH,
37 Moorcroft Road,
Fulwood,
Sheffield,
South Yorkshire.

☐ Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice.

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c: Typical	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000	7 day	——
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	3.84	3.84	3.07	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	3.75	3.75	3.00	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	2.94	2.94	2.35	10,000-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	3.19	3.19	2.55	10,000-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	3.80	3.80	3.04	10,000-100,000	1 mth.	0742 526655
" " "	3.84	3.84	3.07	10,000-100,000	3 mth	0742 526655
NatWest	3.56	3.56	2.85	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	3.47	3.47	2.78	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	3.46	3.54	2.83	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	1.88	1.89	1.51	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	0.38	0.38	0.30	500‡	none	071 626 6543
Citibank	5.40	5.54	4.43	2,000‡	none	0800 558884
Lloyds HICA	0.38	0.38	0.30	1,000‡	none	0272 433972
Midland HICA	1.50	1.50	1.20	2,000‡	none	0742 526655
NatWest Special Reserve	1.13	1.13	0.90	500‡	none	0800 200 400
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	1.50	1.51	1.21	2,000‡	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank HICA	1.88	1.88	1.50	2,000‡	none	071-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	0.75	0.75	0.60	50+	none	——
Best buy — largest socs:						
Britannia	5.63	5.63	4.50	25,000 min	Postal	——
Birmingham Mid	5.78	5.78	4.62	100,000 min	Postal	——
Northern Rock	5.29	5.29	4.23	40,000 min	30 day	——
Cheltenham & Gl	6.41	6.41	5.13	100,000 min	90 day	——
Leeds Permt	5.81	5.81	4.65	100,000 min	1 year	——
Best buy — all socs:						
Nottingham Imp	6.00	6.00	4.80	50,000 min	Postal	——
Nottingham	5.85	5.85	4.68	50,000 min	30 day	——
Marsden	6.00	6.00	4.80	50,000 min	60 day	——
Scarborough	6.26	6.26	5.01	50,000 min	90 day	——
Universal	6.45	6.45	5.16	50,000 min	1 year	——

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NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c*	3.75	2.81	2.25	500-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	6.25	4.69	3.75	20-25,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	7.00	5.25	4.20	2,000-50,000	3 mth	0253 86151
5th Index Linkd*	3.25	3.25	3.25	100-5,000	8 day	091-386 4900
40th Issue Cert*	5.75	5.75	5.75	100-5,000	8 day	091-386 4900
Yearly Plan*	5.75	5.75	5.75	20-600/mth	14 day	091-386 4900
Children's Bond	7.85	7.85	7.85	25-1,000		
Gen Ext Relief	3.75	3.75	3.75			
Capital Bond*	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-100,000	8 days	041-649-4555
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
General Portfolio	5.20	5.20	4.42	50,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
General Portfolio	5.60	5.60	4.76	50,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
General Portfolio	6.20	6.20	5.27	50,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
General Portfolio	6.50	6.50	5.53	50,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5766
General Portfolio	6.60	6.60	5.78	50,000 min	5 yrs	for details

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RPI (Jan 92-93)	+1.7%	Spanish Pesetas:	163.50
Bank Base Rate	6%	French Francs:	7.84
Personal Loan	26%	Greek Drachma:	315.00
Credit Card	25 - 27%	Italian Lire:	2251.00

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Darlington	8.00	£3,240.00	28 days loss Intst	£1	0325 467171
Dunfermline	8.00	£3,240.00	1mths notice+loss	£3,000	0383 721621
St Pancras	8.00	£3,240.00	£25+30days notice	£10	071 7942331
Manchester	8.00	£3,240.00		£50	061 8349455

* 2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less † Additional holdings up to £10,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates ‡Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross @ higher rates for larger sums ^Guaranteed over the rate of inflation

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26	Zambia Copper	Mining	
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236	154	Allied Irish	221	-2	...	5.2	-
107½	86	Aus New Z	110	...	...	5.1	...
3806½	1901½	Bankamerica	3806½	+31½	...	...	...
233	141	Bk of Ireland	223	+1	...	5.3	25.7
345	320	Bk Leumi UK	325	...	17.0	7.3	...
140	97	Bank Scotland	134	+1	4.3	4.3	21.1
464	274	Barclays	414	+2	15.1	5.0	-
6	1½	Benchmark	3	...	...	...	...
204	28	Brown Shipley	43	...	...	...	...
21	10	Carlisle	17½	...	...	...	...
464	295	Cater Allen	463	...	26.0	7.5	...
107	61	Cattles	106	...	3.8	4.8	15.5
3450	412½	Chase Manh	2450 †	+25	...	...	...
2012½	537½	Citicorp	2012½	+12½	...	...	...
345	205	Close Bros	345	...	...	3.7	15.2
£122	8667½	Commerzbk	£120½	...	...	3.3	...
£130½	£214	Deutsche Bk	£130½	-425	...	2.1	...
81	11½	First Nat Fin	55	-2	...	...	...
1172	493	Fuji Bank Y	1172	+5	...	0.4	66.6
430	230	Gerrard Nat	430	...	21.0	6.5	...
654	236	HSBC	604	-37	...	3.3	24.8
604	313	HSBC HK	585	-36	...	3.4	24.0
330	202	Hambros	330	+2	13.8	5.6	14.6
365	308	Joseph (L)	358	...	15.8	5.9	...
120	54	King Shaxson	119	...	5.0	5.6	...
394	212	Kleinwort Ben	369 †	-5	16.0	5.8	-
573	346	Lloyds	553	-3	18.4	4.4	7.9
79	40	Lon Scot Bk	79	+1	3.0	5.1	15.7
425	258	Nat Aust Bk	422½	-3½	...	4.8	14.7
485	251	Nat West	480 †	-1	...	5.2	32.9
819	418	Provident	801 †	...	28.5	4.7	-
47	25	Rea Bros	45	...	0.5	1.5	...
261½	137	Ryl Bk Scot	257	-2	8.8	4.6	...
1770	1043	Schroders	1770	...	18.0	1.4	20.6
731	364	Stand Chart	714	+11	...	3.8	...
187½	115	TSB	173	-1	6.4	4.9	...
200	38	Union Disc	92	...	...	...	...
640	403	Warburg SG	606	-8	18.0	4.0	17.9
216	137	-do- 6% 'A'	209½	-1½	...	3.9	...
7625	3087½	Wells Fargo	7525	-100	...	1.4	...
185	99	Westpac	158	-1	...	5.1	...
253	188	Wintrust	209 †	...	9.3	5.9	8.1

BREWERIES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
712	526	Allied-Lyons	563	-8	20.0	4.7	13.1
656	472	Bass	576	-1	18.9	4.4	12.5
253	146	Boddington	249	+3	7.3	4.0	-
400	243	Bulmer (HP)	393	...	9.8	3.1	18.1
159	111	Burtonwd Brw	140	-3	4.4	4.2	10.2
291	194	Devenish (JA)	263	...	7.8	4.0	14.8
107	68	Eldridge P 'A'	90	-3	...	4.8	23.8
84½	47	Fosters Brewing	65	+1	...	4.2	8.9
440	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	343	...	...	2.6	14.4
518	380	Grand Met	472	-7	12.3	3.5	15.6
424½	323	Greenalls Grp	400	...	11.7	3.9	13.3
533	405	Greene King	533	...	11.6	2.9	13.9
644	440	Guinness	490	-1	10.8	3.1	13.5
346	230	Hardy Hansn	230	...	7.9	4.6	12.8
145	113	Heavitree	113	...	3.0	3.6	-
105	78	-do- 'A' LV	78	...	...	5.2	10.9
305	191	Highland Distl	271	...	6.0	3.0	18.0
48	21	Hoskins Brew	43	+3	...	...	31.0
336	250	Invergordn Dist	266	-5	6.5	3.3	14.9
320	151	Macallan-Glen	175	...	0.7	0.6	35.3
420	380	Marstn Thmp 'A'	428	...	8.8	2.7	13.7
720	515	Mansfield	707	...	13.6	2.6	15.2
269	186	Mrston Tmp	244	...	4.9	2.7	14.3
477	304	Matthew Clark	425	...	15.7	4.9	12.7
351	195	Merrydown W	220	-5	...	3.1	19.5
493	330	Morland	488	...	8.4	2.3	19.5
12	5½	Paramount	10½	-½	...	2.1	19.1
1020	865	SA Breweries	948	...	...	2.8	-
492	390	Sm & New	462	-1	16.1	4.6	12.6
300	145	Taunton Cider	182	-2	...	3.5	17.0
241	148	Vaux Group	227	...	9.3	5.5	15.6
250	165	Wetherspoon JD	240	...	...	2.5	21.0
490	347	Whitbread 'A'	480	+3	16.9	4.7	13.5
1476	1050	-do- 'B'	1050	...	16.9	2.2	28.6
662	510	Wolvrhmptn D	598	...	11.4	2.5	16.8
545	453	Young 'A'	510	...	14.5	3.8	22.3

BUILDING, ROADS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	60	Abbey	90	...	...	1.5	32.5
[illegible]	9	Admighton	18	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	54	Allen	104	...	...	6.4	30.8
[illegible]	53	Amec	79	+3	10.2	...	7.3
[illegible]	2½	Anglia Sec	8½	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	85	Ashtead	177 †	-2	4.1	3.1	22.1
[illegible]	109	Attwoods	134	...	5.0	5.0	19.4
[illegible]	123	BPB Ind	205	+2	...	4.9	52.1
[illegible]	59	Baggeridge Brk	78	...	3.1	5.3	26.2
[illegible]	15	Bailey (Ben) Con	29	...	0.5	...	...
[illegible]	48	Barratt	86	-1	1.2	1.9	15.6
[illegible]	34	Barratt Devs	126	-1	2.0	2.1	14.0
[illegible]	255	Bellway	362	+2	11.5	4.2	21.0
[illegible]	14	Bellwinch	25	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	178½	Berkeley Gp	337 †	-1	...	2.4	21.3
[illegible]	45	Bett Bros	53	+3	...	...	2.2
[illegible]	17	Blockleys	45	-1	3.3	...	44.7
[illegible]	121	Blue Circle	214	-1	11.2	7.0	21.4
[illegible]	140½	Boot (Henry)	280	+5	...	2.6	15.3
[illegible]	62	Breedon PLC	95	...	4.6	6.5	18.4
[illegible]	66	Br Dredging	105	...	7.4	9.4	13.6
[illegible]	42	Brit Fittings	53	...	5.3	...	...
[illegible]	60	Bryant	124	-2	4.8	5.2	26.5
[illegible]	38	CALA	56	-1	2.3	5.5	...
[illegible]	157	CRH	237	-4	...	4.0	-
[illegible]	14	Cakebread Rby	33	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	18½	Costain	30½	+½	4.7	...	...
[illegible]	51	Countryside	117	-3	4.1	4.7	30.9
[illegible]	23	Crest Nicholson	55 †	...	0.0	...	-
[illegible]	14	Cussins	58	+12	...	...	...
[illegible]	½	Dunton	2½	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	12	Edmond Hldgs	23	...	1.8	...	9.4
[illegible]	132	Epwin	180	-1	...	4.9	14.8
[illegible]	23	Erith	34	...	2.0	...	...
[illegible]	220	Eve Group	335	...	...	3.9	12.1
[illegible]	25	Evered Bardon	38	-1	5.6	...	20.5
[illegible]	3	Explanata	4½	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	68	Freeman Gp	102	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	39	Galliford	40	...	4.3	...	35.9
[illegible]	75	Gibbs & Dandy	75	...	...	...	...
[illegible]	578	Glasgow (MJ)	748	...	12.7	2.3	11.1
[illegible]	67	Mowlem-Stuart	95	+1	3.1	4.4	19.8
[illegible]	38	Hewetson	90 †	...	2.6	...	49.8
[illegible]	129	Heywd Wilm	239	+53	12.5	7.2	-
[illegible]	29	Higgs & Hill	62	...	9.0	...	9.5
[illegible]	22	How Gp	34	...	2.5	...	11.9
[illegible]	37	Howard Hldgs	15	...	0.5	3.7	...
[illegible]	36	Ibstock Johnsen	59	...	6.0	...	...
[illegible]	14½	Jarvis	18	...	0.5	...	...
[illegible]	109	Laing (J)	206	+1	9.0	5.8	10.7
[illegible]	3½	Lilley	7½	...	2.0	...	2.4
[illegible]	55	Ln Clydeside	55	...	4.5	10.9	20.7
[illegible]	4½	Lovell (YJ)	17	-1½	...	...	7.7
[illegible]	150	Marders	304	...	9.0	4.0	-
[illegible]	57	Marley	102	-5	4.2	5.5	25.7
[illegible]	47	Marshalls	75	...	...	8.9	25.1
[illegible]	107	Meanders (J)	125	...	4.9	5.3	11.4
[illegible]	76	McAlpine (A)	143 †	...	6.5	6.0	25.1
[illegible]	19	McCarthy & S	31	-1	0.5	6.1	...

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
433	181	Meyer Int	298	-2	16.5	7.4	30.7
14	4	Miskin Gp	4	...	...	...	...
171	52	Mowlem (J)	87	-2	10.5	...	...
78	18	NSM	73	...	...	...	...
83	49	Needler	49	...	...	7.8	26.6
165	90	Newman Tnks	127	...	...	8.4	-
327	146	Persimmon	234	+1	8.6	5.0	-
36	19	Phoenix Timber	23	...	...	...	...
1625	1150	Pochins	1475	...	28.0	2.6	9.0
155	66	Prowting	96	...	3.4	4.7	...
23	3½	Quiligotti	5½	...	...	...	...
649	383	RMC Gp	576	-6	20.0	4.6	21.4
137	67	Raine Ind	91	-2	6.0	8.7	15.4
96	20	Ransom	23	...	...	...	...
565	300	Redland	445	-4	25.0	7.5	19.1
101	61	Rostel	72	...	4.8	8.0	9.6
248	152	Rugby Group	222	...	6.4	3.8	16.7
48	35	Smart-Eve	35	...	...	...	5.9
98	50	Sharpe & Fisher	83	...	4.0	6.4	...
143	70	Sheffield Insl	143	...	5.4	5.0	37.0
90	53	Sheriff Hldgs	89	...	...	3.0	13.3
86	33	Shorco	85	...	...	8.2	13.1
272	188	Smart (J)	220	...	8.5	5.2	10.0
	4½	Stormin	5½	...	0.3	7.3	6.6
161	51	Tarmac	109	+1	3.5	6.7	45.1
236	120	Tay Homes	185	...	3.8	4.2	10.2
143	34	Taylor Woodrw	86	-2	0.5	...	11.9
688	398	Tilbury Dougls	520	...	31.0	8.5	17.3
48	18	Tonex Hires	23	...	...	2.3	...
228	105	Travis Perkins	192	...	8.0	5.6	27.2
58	20	Try Group	32	+1	0.0	...	4.4
38	26	Tudor	26	...	...	...	...
106	45	Vibroplant	66	...	3.6	7.3	12.1
55	12	Ward Hldgs	34	-3	...	...	...
43	23	Waterhouse	36	...	...	...	...
475	265	Watts Blake	450	...	9.3	2.8	21.4
19	8	Wescol	13	...	...	...	...
129	45	Westbury	116	...	...	5.6	...
18	4½	Wgn Scaffold	9	-½	...	...	...
22	2	Wiggins	10	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	373	...	8.7	3.1	19.1
221	96	Wilson (C)	165	...	3.9	3.2	26.2
189	65	Wimpey G	123	-2	...	5.7	49.3
81	25	YBM	30	...	4.0	...	3.5

BUSINESS SERVICES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
663	343	ADT	663	+25	...	...	-
248	193	Adam & Harvey	218	-2	11.0	6.7	3.4
127	53	Air London	85	...	...	5.5	10.5
65	34	African Lakes	47	...	2.0	5.7	9.3
175	81	Asto Sec	169	+1	4.9	3.9	13.7
208	80	BET Ord	99½	+4½	...	8.7	14.6
100	41	BNB Res	67	...	4.9	9.8	7.9
318	208	BPP	310	...	6.9	3.0	17.5
285	178	Barbour Index	225	...	7.2	3.5	20.4
30½	13	Boustead	18	...	0.7	5.2	36.8
231	111	Brit Data Mgt	226	+3	...	2.4	18.7
14	9	Broadcastle	14	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	63	...	4.0	...	20.1
142	72	CRT Gp	98	...	2.4	3.3	11.2
484	262	Capita Group	480	-1	6.3	1.8	-
36	19	Casket Plc	33½	-2	0.5	2.0	12.7
220	25½	Caliburn Capital	54	...	...	...	...
39	22	Christie	30	...	...	...	...
285	180	Chubb Sec	271	-4	...	1.4	28.9
43	18	Comace	31	-1	...	...	...
31	5½	Corp Services	15	-½	...	...	...
123	48	Dart	76	...	3.3	5.8	8.6
225	145	Davis Service	224	...	7.9	4.8	17.0
115	85	EW Facs	97	...	...	5.9	7.2
57	8	Gardiner	12½	...	1.3	13.9	3.9
48	20	Gardiner (DC)	33	-1	...	...	-
346	163	Hays	231	-1	4.6	2.7	22.6
251	167½	Hogg Robinsn	198	...	6.3	4.3	14.9
143½	43	Holmes Protectn	69	...	...	...	4.1
162	98	Hutch Whamp	141	-14	...	...	15.2
£119	6837½	ISS B DKr	£118	-100	...	0.9	16.7
607	375	Inchcape	585	-26	12.5	2.9	24.8
805	561	Johnson Clean	805	...	25.7	4.3	16.8
18½	2½	Lep	9½	...	...	...	...
244	168	Mide Gp	223	...	2.7	1.6	18.4
1187	682	Manpower	1133	-18	...	...	...
44½	32½	Michael Page	44	...	1.8	5.5	12.2
279	88	Pennas	277	+26	...	1.0	70.2
5½	2	Prime People	3½	...	...	...	...
398	68	Proudfoot Alex	116	-3	19.5	22.8	2.5
453	355	RCO	405 †	...	12.8	4.6	13.9
183	117	REA	117	...	4.0	4.6	...
81	47	Reed Executive	47	-2	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Sec	151	...	...	4.0	15.2
13	4	Rentaminster	4 #	...	...	...	...
238	134	Rentokil	228	-6	1.6	1.0	33.5
273	180	Rolfe & Nolan	270	...	6.2	3.1	18.1
349	234	Salvesen (C)	342	-4	7.0	2.4	21.3
43	25	Scot Pickford	34	...	...	3.1	9.4
206	98	Securiguard	185	-3	9.4	6.8	9.8
12	1½	Select Appt	5½	...	...	...	...
930	555	Serco Gp	930	+15	14.0	2.0	-
352	132	Sherwd Cmp	322	+2	...	2.5	8.7
157	82½	Sketchley	117	...	3.0	3.4	14.2
360	270	Warner Howrd	353	...	5.9	2.2	19.9
81	40	Welpac	40	...	0.6	2.0	...
22	7	Wills Gp	20½	-1	...	0.7	28.0

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
248	162	Allied Colloids	238	-2	3.0	2.2	18.9
741	413	Amersham	739	-1	12.5	2.3	27.4
31½	4½	Anglo Utd	4½	...	0.8	...	...
£101½	7362½	BASF DM	9980	-100	...	7.9	...
269	201	BTP	269	...	8.8	4.4	19.7
£119	9050	Bayer DM50	£115½	-225	...	4.9	...
238	126	Blagden	148	...	9.5	8.9	-
165	115	Brent Chems	160	-2	7.4	6.4	-
535	418	Br Bio-Tech	470	-10	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Gp	22	...	2.5	15.7	5.5
179	112	Canning (W)	143	...	7.2	6.8	11.5
616	371	Courtaulds	596	-6	13.0	2.9	16.2
270½	142	Croda	256	-3	7.5	3.9	19.4
271	152	Ellis & Everard	183	...	7.0	5.0	17.1
20½	7	Euro Colour	19½	-1½	0.6	4.2	...
138	43	Evode	138	...	3.5	3.5	-
282	171	Halstead (J)	282	...	...	2.8	15.1
227	158	Hickson	223	...	7.8	4.7	14.2
£114½	7537½	Hoechst	£109½	-102½	...	7.5	...
1410	975	ICI	1222	+9	...	5.9	31.7
688	434	Laporte	686	-2	18.9	3.7	18.4
328	138	Leigh	213	-1	7.8	4.9	17.4
13	11	MTM	13½	...	1.8	...	2.7
1687½	1180	Norsk Hydro	1652½	-9½	...	1.7	...
415	360	Pearson Zoch	415	...	11.4	3.7	17.9
385	355	-do- 'A'	373	...	11.4	4.1	16.1
301	231	Plysu	296	-1	10.0	3.0	17.9
208	130	Porvair	192 †	-4	3.6	2.4	...
13	4	Suncliffe Speak	10	...	...	...	...
475	329	Wardle Storeys	438	...	16.0	5.0	17.3
455	220	Wolstnhlme R	455	...	16.3	4.8	20.0
391	245½	Yorks Chem	389	...	...	2.6	20.8
287	234	Yule Catto	287	...	5.4	2.4	18.1

DRAPERY, STORES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
382	83	Alexon	86	-4	...	4.7	4.7
109	23	Amber Day	56	+1	3.1	7.4	15.3
306	190	Argos Plc	286	-4	6.4	3.0	19.9
99	37	Ashley (Laura)	76	-1	0.1	0.2	79.5
305	180	Asprey	293	...	...	2.2	23.9
340	180	Austin Reed	195	...	6.0	...	56.8
150	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	145	-3	5.7	5.3	13.9
144	74	Bentalls	120	...	3.8	4.3	67.7
288	86	Betterware	260	-4	...	0.6	35.8
114	22	Blacks Leis	25	...	3.3	...	5.2
371	133	Body Shop	184	-6	1.6	1.2	21.2
15½	3	Brown & Jackson	15½	...	...	...	...
400	260	Brown (N)	396	-1	6.0	2.0	24.5
80½	29	Burton	76	...	...	3.6	...
320	126	Castors	188	+1	...	2.5	19.0
358	245	Church	350	...	12.5	5.5	-
163	58	Clinton Cards	151	-5	3.7	3.3	...
231	151	Coats Viyella	229	-1	7.0	4.1	26.2
103	77	Colourvision	95	-1	...	...	16.1
454	300	Courts Furnish	452	...	5.0	1.5	22.7
252	100	Crown Eyes	140	...	...	5.7	6.5
111	65	Dairy Farm Intl	96	-6	...	...	15.5
58	27½	Dewhirst (I)	58	...	0.7	1.7	19.2
286	179	Dixons Grp	237	+2	6.0	3.4	27.9
405	342	Dunhill	342	-8	7.7	3.0	11.9
33	12½	ERA Gp	14	...	...	...	6.5
780	400	Elys (Wmbldn)	400	...	16.0	5.3	8.9
115	30½	Ewer Parm	111	-2	...	3.3	18.6
208	199	Etam	208	-4	6.6	4.2	18.6
558	340	Fine Art Dev	539	-4	11.0	2.7	20.7
80	26	Fired Earth Tiles	42	...	4.0	...	30.7
500	438	Forminster	498	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
50	5	French Conns	50	...	...	...	...
75	21	Gabbicci	40	...	...	6.7	8.0
69	39	Gent SR	61	-2	2.0	4.4	17.7
41	18	Goldsmiths Gp	36	-1	1.8	...	...
2645	1800	GUS	2645	+20	40.0	2.0	21.1
1728	1319	-do- 'A'	1665	-13	40.0	3.2	13.3
73	30	Hampden Grp	35	...	...	7.6	5.0
283	123	Hamstone	142	-13	4.8	4.6	8.7
25	16½	Helene Plc	24	...	2.0	11.2	10.5
42	18	Heritage	39	...	...	...	...
58	25	Honeysuckle	49 †	...	...	2.7	6.9
168	128	Hse of Lerose	157	...	10.3	10.0	20.8
195	40	Jacques Vert	68	...	2.0	...	...
582	308	Kingfisher	549	+3	...	3.3	16.5
74	54½	Leslie Wise Gp	70 †	-1	4.8	7.6	-
685	405	Liberty	655	-3	7.2	1.5	44.6
373	162	Lloyds Chem	293	-5	3.5	2.5	11.4
152	90½	MFI	127	-1	...	3.9	16.9
359½	288	Marks Spencer	355	-4	7.1	2.7	21.6
480	319	Menzies (John)	449	+1	10.0	3.0	14.9
148	110	Moss Bros	147	...	5.0	4.5	28.3
162	57	Next	161	-1	0.7	0.6	31.8
38	15	Oliver (G)	17	...	1.0	...	...
250	110	Oriflame Intl	223	...	...	5.4	14.5
143	45	Pentos	52½	-1½	1.5	3.9	-
283	202	QS Hldgs	283	+5	4.7	2.2	21.9
29	7	Ratners Group	18	...	2.4	17.8	...
35	10	Rhino Grp	32	...	...	...	...
189	110	Sherwood Gp	147	-3	...	2.1	14.1
113	54	Sears	97	-2	...	4.8	28.6
523	357	Smith WH 'A'	434	+7	13.4	4.1	15.3
	4½	Specialeyes	7½	...	...	...	...
219	87	Storehouse	193	+2	5.0	3.5	...
226	153	T & S Stores	159	-4	5.5	4.6	10.4
131	27	Tie Rack	105	-1	0.5	0.6	...
213	132	Time Products	212	...	7.5	4.7	20.7
102	47	Usher (Frank)	100 †	...	...	6.7	7.9
100	23	Vivat	41	-1	1.0	3.3	-
48	28	Wensum	41	...	...	...	7.1
104	53	Wickes	96	...	...	...	43.5
70	28	Wld of Leather	58	...	...	...	68.2
205	112½	Wyevale	175	...	...	3.1	-
7	2½	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	2.7

ELECTRICALS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
103	45	AB Elect	86	-1	4.5	3.5	16.7
197	128	ACT Group	170	...	...	3.3	19.9
238	195	Acal	238	...	...	...	...
162½	6	Acorn Compu	120	+2	...	...	...
480	299	Admiral	450	...	5.4	1.6	-
133	96	Alba	121	...	4.7	5.5	15.8
75	7	Alphameric	28	-½	...	...	...
44	19	Amstrad	35½	...	0.4	...	...
141	83	App Holos	109	...	...	...	...
22	12	Arlen	14	...	...	...	...
48	12	Arnec	41½	-1½	...	...	...
292	218	Beales Hunter	266	...	9.2	4.6	14.1
20	1½	Bennett & Fountn	7	+1	...	...	...
381	207	BICC	364	-8	...	7.3	28.0
575	314	BICK	520 †	-5	9.2	2.4	20.2
4575	1150	Borland	1550	...	...	...	...
300	208	Bowthorpe	291	-1	8.0	2.7	20.4
449½	305	BT	425½	-10	14.4	4.5	15.9
9	5	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	8½	...	0.1	1.6	...
226	80	Bussfield	150	...	5.7	5.3	...
750	499	Cable Wireless	713	-10	13.2	2.5	22.0
14½	4½	Chloride	13½	...	...	...	...
371	205	CML Micro	251	...	...	2.4	16.5
116	62	Compter People	91	...	5.4	...	11.7
151	60½	Cray Elect	136	-1½	...	0.5	11.1
380	231	Critchley	330	...	...	2.5	22.7
505	331	Delta	435	-5	14.0	4.3	17.2
300	148	Dewmans Ele	297	...	...	2.7	-
620	375	Domino	613	-5	7.2	1.6	20.9
68	45	Dowding Mills	55	...	2.5	6.3	17.4
1015	750	Drucks	1000	...	...	1.3	24.1
403	250	Electrocompnts	400	+2	7.0	2.3	21.6
545	286	El Data Prc	520 †	...	5.1	1.3	14.3
75	28	Electron House	70	...	2.3	4.5	21.3
25½	7	Ensus	17½	-½	1.0	...	...
550	292	Eurotherm	540	+4	8.0	2.0	24.6
150	51	FKI	134	-1	2.3	2.5	24.0
372	227	Farnell Elect	370	+2	5.8	2.1	20.2
40	18	Feedback	35	...	...	...	...
17½	3½	Ferrand	17	+½	...	...	...
158	30	First Tech	148	-2	...	...	...
153	71	Forward Gp	152	-1	...	2.2	18.3
28½	10	Forward Tech	17½	-½	...	...	...
314	183	GEC	259½	-7½	9.6	4.4	15.5
222	102	Graseby	170	+5	10.8	8.5	14.8
57	39	Hitchmere	39	...	...	1.7	12.7
458	395	Hadlyns Gp	458	+1	2.4	0.7	39.0
136	65	INSTEM	113	-2	...	3.7	-
368	190	Jones Stroud	365	...	8.0	2.9	15.9
21	8	Kenbray	8	...	0.3	6.3	3.1

Dull end to the account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 1. Dealings ended yesterday. §Contango day Monday. Settlement day March 22. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
321	208	Kenwood App	318	-2	...	...	16.9
319	47	Kewill Sys	76	...	...	...	3.8
177	92	Kode	176	+3	3.5	4.3	-
46	6	Laser-Scan	31	...	...	...	...
306	49½	LIMS	299	+6	...	...	...
315	280	Lec Refrig	275	-5	14.5	7.0	21.0
179	125	Life Sciences	156	-2	3.5	3.1	-
232	130	Logica	195	...	3.6	2.5	22.9
55	45	LPA Inds	46	...	...	10.2	13.0
212	159	MR Data Mngmt	197	-2	4.3	2.9	18.8
663	371	Macro 4	650	-5	...	2.6	21.6
604½	301	Menvier-Swa	580	-8	...	2.1	18.4
3013	1453	Micro Focus	2325	+12	...	...	21.4
227	130	Microgen	222	...	7.2	4.4	15.1
35	13	Microvitec	29	-2	...	...	...
514	201	Misys	487	-1	6.1	1.7	22.2
147	40	Mitel	131	+1	...	...	...
138	78	MMT Compu	129	-1	...	3.6	18.4
42	25	Molynx	25	...	4.0	21.3	2.4
373	282	MTL Inst	231	+2	...	2.1	-
165	82	Multitone Elect	144	-1	3.0	2.8	17.7
149	71	Murray Entr	148	...	1.8	1.7	-
6412½	3962½	NYNEX	6200	-125	...	...	...
188	115	Neotronics	183	...	2.6	1.9	23.6
63	32	Newmark (L)	49	+2	...	...	...
90	33	Norbain	90	+10	...	1.3	13.5
50	20	Northumber	41	...	0.5	1.6	...
17½	9	Oceonics	11½	-½	...	...	7.5
254	165	Oxford Inst	222	...	4.3	2.6	14.9
127	46	P-E Internt'l	66	-1	6.2	...	...
68	16	P & P	57	-1	1.4	3.3	29.9
79	42	Pesk	77	-1	3.4	5.9	22.8
190	85	Pegasus	165	-1	...	5.2	-
9200	7000	Philips Fn 4%	9000	...	...	6.4	...
1187½	625	-do- Ln 8V	875	...	...	...	...
452	310	Pilco	441	...	7.7	2.4	37.4
432	280	-do- 'A' Voting	420	-1	9.7	2.5	35.6
95	48	Plasmec	93	...	...	3.6	11.9
106	63	Pressac	95	...	2.4	3.4	18.5
230	65	Psion	118	...	...	2.7	...
11	2	Ptarmigan	7	...	...	...	...
206	128	Racal Elect	200	-5	1.5	1.0	23.7
46	26	Radamec	45	-1	0.5	1.5	26.4
70	25	Radius	61	-4	...	6.1	20.5
118	61	Real Time	65	...	...	6.2	5.9
29	10	Riva	23	...	...	...	...
563	328	Sage Gp	563	+1	9.0	2.1	18.0
66	44	Scantronic	65	...	2.9	6.1	20.5
142	92	Schules Grp	135	-2	5.0	4.9	26.5
340	179	Sema Gp	281	-8	2.8	1.3	-
45	21	Silverlines	37	...	7.8	...	...
50	29	Soundtracks	40	...	...	7.3	13.5
2050	1275	TDK	2050	+25	...	1.4	21.6
8	3	TDS Circuits	6½	...	...	...	...
127	30	Telemetrix	109	-1	0.6	0.7	38.0
888	633	THORN EMI	853	-8	30.1	4.7	22.0
111	88	Thorpe FW	106	...	2.5	3.1	10.9
103	33	Total Systems	84	-1	2.2	3.6	15.0
429	190	Tunstall	415	...	6.0	1.9	18.6
248	123	Unitech	221	...	5.8	3.5	38.7
24½	7	Verity	7	...	...	...	...
33	13	Vistec	31	-½	...	1.3	26.4
434	285	Vodafone	409	-6	...	1.9	20.1
441	249½	Volex	409	...	...	5.5	20.8
18	10	Western Selectn	18	+½	...	...	...
287	153	Wholesale Ftgs	223	...	11.7	7.0	21.2

ELECTRICITY

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
468½	273	East Midlands	460	-4	17.1	5.0	8.8
483	266	Eastern Elect	479	-2	16.7	4.6	11.9
264	145	Hydro-Elect	257	-6	10.1	4.1	11.6
491	288	London Elect	490	+2	16.8	4.6	9.4
546	324	Manweb	536	...	18.2	4.5	7.7
511	287	Midlands Elec	506	-2	17.2	4.5	10.6
538½	295	Northern Elec	534	-2	18.5	4.6	7.9
530	298	Norweb	526	-3	17.7	4.5	9.9
252½	142	Scottish Power	247½	-4½	10.1	4.3	11.8
519	297	Seeboard	515	-3	17.2	4.5	9.3
555	313	Sth Wales	553	...	19.4	4.7	8.8
507	293	Sth Western	505	...	17.4	4.6	9.1
491	270	Southern Elec	491	...	16.6	4.5	9.7
546	331	Yorkshire Elec	536	-3	17.7	4.4	9.9
341	188	National Powr	334½	-6½	9.1	3.6	11.0
342	196	PowerGen	335½	-6½	9.2	3.7	10.4

FINANCE, LAND

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
58	28	Aitken Hume	56	+3	0.5	...	35.8
70	37½	BWD	70	...	...	6.3	10.6
124	23	Baltic Plc	49	...	1.0	2.7	-
453	209	Caledonia	436	...	14.4	4.4	16.7
1950	1050	Camellia	1400	...	27.0	2.6	11.8
250	203	Candover	252	-1	10.2	5.6	-
91	48	Flextech	81	...	...	...	8.0
238	103	Govett	234	-1	...	7.3	-
138	97	Ivory Sime	138	...	...	6.0	14.6
6½	3½	LIT	6½	...	...	...	...
165	7½	Lightship	12 #	...	...	...	0.6
185	110	Lon Forfaitng	185	...	...	6.2	-
81	14	Manaklin	77	...	...	...	...
10½	1½	Nat Home Loan	9½	...	...	...	...
47	24	Newmarket	45	...	...	...	...
260	179	Rathbone Brs	260	...	...	2.6	18.4
22	9½	Rutland Tst	20	...	0.8	5.3	11.4
330	120	S & U	298	...	...	3.7	10.6
67	34	Singer & Fried	63	...	2.6	5.6	-
938	575	Sotheby	900	...	...	4.6	...
99	73	SIP Capital	98	...	3.0	4.1	17.7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1957½	1043½	Amer Express	1906½	+19½	...	...	...
234	149	Electra	228	-8	6.7	4.1	30.0
978	535	Henderson Ad	940	-33	41.0	5.8	20.7
120	50	Invesco MIM	117	-1	...	3.4	17.2
223	121	Jardine Strat	210	-6	...	3.5	9.4
194	100½	MAI	183	-2	6.0	4.4	13.3
469	244	MAM	444	-8	11.5	3.5	17.7
798	460	M & G	783	-9	20.0	3.4	20.8
178	81	Smith New Ct	176	+1	4.5	3.4	7.0
98	57	Sterling Tst	97 #	...	...	...	8.5
78	35	Trio Hldgs	72	+1½	...	5.6	...

FOODS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
515	362	AB Food	496	-2	14.0	3.8	11.4
72	21½	ASDA Group	70½	+½	...	3.0	22.8
225	75	Acatos & Hutch	222	...	6.5	3.9	12.8
83	31	Albert Fisher	71	...	3.7	7.0	11.8
432	273	Argyll	383½	-½	9.7	3.4	15.1
51	11	Ashley Group	20	...	0.7	5.0	...
147	103	Assoc Fisheries	131	...	7.0	7.1	24.2
200	143	Banks (S C)	200 †	...	8.2	5.5	10.0
348	200	Barr (AG)	347	...	6.5	2.5	-
117	74	Bensons Crsp	92	...	...	4.1	4.8
137½	50	Berisford Intl	129	...	...	...	...
480	312	Booker	439	-6	21.7	6.6	13.4
44	28	Borthwick	41	+½	1.1	3.6	28.6
474	384	Brake Bros	449	...	5.7	1.7	18.8
51	31	Budgens	45	...	...	...	15.3
511	412	Cadbury-Schw	497	-5	...	3.6	18.1
107	64	Carrs Milling	84	...	3.9	6.2	16.0
256	105	Clifford Fd 'A'	256	...	11.5	6.0	12.1
186	140	Cranswick	185	+1	...	5.4	13.7
38	8	Cullens	18½	-1	0.5	3.6	9.9
435	250	Dalepak	280	...	6.0	2.8	12.6
491	352	Dalgety	484	-4	19.5	5.5	13.9
54	27	Daniels S	36	...	0.2	0.9	39.3
134	97½	Everest	133	...	...	3.5	18.2
285	234	Farepak	288	...	...	2.3	20.4
16	3	Farringford	8½	...	...	...	...
92	53	Finlay (James)	79	-2	4.1	7.0	14.8
95	68	Fyffes	90	...	...	1.7	-
475	249	Geest	466	-1	7.9	2.3	17.7
12	5	Global	11	...	...	6.1	10.1
48	34	Grand Central	43	...	1.1	3.6	...
188	81	Hazlewood Fds	188	+1	6.1	4.3	11.4
200	68	Hillsdown	154	-4	...	8.0	11.6
61	27	Hunter Saphir	43	...	2.5	...	...
745	412	Iceland Frozen	735	-3	8.5	1.5	19.7
142	103	JLI Group	129	...	4.5	4.7	18.6
853	514	Kwik Save	834	-4	16.0	2.6	17.4
285½	169	Low (Wm)	252	-2	8.4	4.4	12.2
74	29	Matthews (B)	50	...	4.5	...	10.6
33	9	Merchant Retail	15½	...	1.1	10.0	37.0
177	83½	Morrison (W)	167	-2	...	0.5	26.2
538	318	Nichols (JN)	533	...	12.3	3.1	15.2
317½	215	Nthn Foods	272	-7	...	3.9	15.0
48	11	Nthmbrn Fine	19	...	...	...	7.9
218	132	Nurdin Peack	200	...	5.5	3.7	13.6
241	78½	Park Foods	223	-9	3.2	1.9	26.7
155	45	Perkins Food	106	...	4.4	5.7	-
99½	21	PizzaExpress	73	-2	...	0.9	43.1
301	130	RHM	275	...	...	6.7	14.0
3½	1½	Regina Hlth	2½	-½	...	...	...
584	337	Sainsbury J	525	-6½	8.7	2.2	19.6
68	33	Senior Farms	68	+15	...	2.0	15.0
340	175	Sims Food	205	-4	11.2	7.3	11.1
443	285	Tate & Lyle	428	-7	12.0	3.8	15.6
296	104½	Tesco	253	...	6.3	3.3	12.0
211	152	Thorntons	198	...	3.6	2.5	18.3
183	83	Treats	158 †	-3	...	3.0	18.0
373	192	Unigate	349½	-14½	15.3	5.8	12.5
440	222	Utd Biscuits	378	-6	15.3	5.4	13.2
25	12	Usborne	23	...	0.4	2.3	14.1
357	205	Watson & Phil	327	...	13.3	5.4	17.1

HOTELS, CATERERS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
23	16	Abrdn Stk Hse	16	-1	1.4	2.3	23.8
89	52	City Centre Rest	85	-3	9.6	6.5	...
262	112	Forte	203	...	5.5	4.3	13.8
240	94	Friendly Hotels	172	...	...	...	...
12	5	Harmony Leis	7½	...	...	...	...
114	87	Jurys Hotel	100	...	...	6.1	11.8
267	126	Ladbroke	199	-2	...	7.7	25.4
73	37½	Mandarin Orntl	65	-3	...	5.3	17.1
92	26	Queens Moat	45	-1	2.8	8.5	6.0
118	51½	-do- 7½% cvpr	88 †	-1	7.5	11.4	...
2	½	Regal Hotels	1½	...	...	...	...
89½	16	Resort Hotels	44	-2	3.4	10.5	8.6
750	420	Savoy Hotel 'A'	713	...	7.0	1.3	...
54	23	Stakis	52 †	-1	...	1.2	...

INDUSTRIALS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
224	135	AAF Inds	220	...	...	4.5	11.6
616	460	AAH	524	-1	16.3	4.2	16.6
203	122	AIM	148	...	6.5	5.9	9.2
136	76	APV	112½	-4½	5.4	6.4	20.3
182	50	ASW	180	...	6.0	4.5	...
155	86	Adwest	153	-2	7.0	6.1	21.8
33	5	Aerospace Eng	12½	-½	1.0	...	7.6
468	253	Airsprung	461	...	7.5	2.2	12.8
138	88	Alenda W	130	-1	3.6	3.7	70.3
22	8	Allied Radio	8	...	...	...	...
520	356	Alumasc	520 †	...	11.0	2.8	15.9
32	9	Abds	32	-2	1.0	4.3	6.6
420	308	Amber Ind	420	...	17.0	5.4	11.3
26	13	Amberley Gp	26	...	...	5.1	...
160	125	Andrews Sykes	144	-1	4.4	4.1	...
893	503	Antofagasta	820	-3	...	3.3	20.1
50½	29½	Armour	45	-½	1.4	4.4	13.2
170	123	Ash & Lacy	170	...	6.4	5.0	14.0
3½		Ass Br Eng	3½	...	0.0	2.1	...
585	300	Avon Rubber	545	-4	16.5	4.0	21.2
195	103	Assoc Nursg	190	...	...	...	7.3
860	445	Atlas Equip	685	...	...	4.1	14.1
48	35	Ayrshire Metal	48	...	...	...	...
173	107	BBA	170	-2	7.5	6.1	-
48	24	BLP Group	28	...	...	...	...
80	49	BM Gp	80	+3	5.0	11.1	2.5
817	583	BOC	751	-11	23.2	4.1	16.5
81	51½	BSG	77½	...	3.2	5.5	21.0
422	298	BSS Group	414	-2	...	5.6	16.5
614	381	BTR	610½	-1½	...	4.0	19.7
221	115	BWI	219	...	6.7	4.1	24.1
70	26½	Babcock	38½	+½	3.1	...	8.0
7½	3½	Bailey (CH)	7½	...	...	...	...
281	193	Baird (Wm)	280	...	8.9	4.2	18.0
1037½	550	Barlow Rand	675	+18½	...	3.6	3.4
45	7	Barrett (H)	7 #	...	2.0	...	16.2
63	37	Baynes (Charles)	57	...	1.3	3.2	18.2
35	5	Beaufort	7	...	1.8	...	...
18	5	Beckenham	7½	...	...	8.9	...
31	10	Bedford (W)	27	...	...	...	...
27½	13	Benson Group	24 †	-1	0.1	0.6	22.2
695	444	Bespak	605	+1	9.0	1.7	21.7
181	109	Bibby (J)	120	...	9.7	10.7	7.1

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
230	81	Billam (J)	213	-2	5.0	3.2	-
55	28	Bilston Bnsea	42	+2	...	...	...
77½	3½	Bimec Ind	9½	-½	0.6	...	...
45	20	Black Arrow	34	-1	2.1	8.2	8.1
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1	...	...	...	...
180	103	Black (Peter)	178	...	2.9	2.2	18.3
185	32	Bluebird Toys	179	...	...	...	...
539	361	Bodycote	530	-1	9.2	2.3	18.7
571	398	Boots	510	-4	12.4	3.2	19.1
84	40	Booth Inds	48	...	3.2	8.9	5.0
517	298	Bowater	503	-9	...	3.0	23.0
1682	905	Bowater Inc	1659 †	-30	...	...	...
229	12½	Boxmore Intl	229	...	...	2.0	22.1
20	13	Brasway	14½	...	0.5	5.3	18.7
274	186	Bremmer	256	...	13.0	6.8	17.6
33	11	Bridgend Gp	15	...	1.2	...	6.8
103	34	Bridon	82	-½	4.0	...	...
82	38	Bridport-Gndry	65	...	4.1	8.4	12.2
40	23	Brierley Inv	38	...	...	8.6	9.1
343	298	Br Bldg & Eng	298	...	...	...	...
47	38	Br Bloodstock	42	...	...	...	...
478	339½	Br Polythene	476 †	...	...	2.8	-
89	43½	Br Steel	88½	-½	...	1.5	...
120	88	Br Syphon	120	...	3.0	3.3	33.6
14½	9	Br Thornton	13½	...	...	2.5	...
294	212	Br Vita	239	-5	7.1	4.1	-
13	5½	Britton Grp	11½	-½	0.0	0.3	...
730	429	Broken Hill	725	-5	...	2.5	34.4
128½	67	Bromsgrove Ind	103	...	4.0	5.2	14.2
15	3	Brooke Tool	7	-½	...	...	...
83	38	Brown & Tawse	53	...	4.7	...	...
174	63	Bullough	102	...	6.0	7.9	17.5
37	13	Business Tech	20	...	...	...	24.1
35	12	CI Group	27	+1	2.0	10.1	11.1
66	14	Campbell & Arm	24	...	2.0	...	...
30	2	Cannon St	12	-½	3.3	...	...
240	161	Cape	240	...	10.5	5.8	15.3
207	130	Carclo Eng	207	...	7.8	5.0	17.4
2850	1675	Carnaud Mtl	2800	-38	...	3.2	8.7
80	55	Cassidy Bros	73	...	...	4.4	8.1
195	118	Castings	164	...	4.0	3.3	11.7
145	90	Chamberlin Hill	145	...	6.0	5.5	8.7
707	467	Charter Cons	650	-2	21.5	4.4	15.6
270	176	Chemring	255	-2	...	4.3	15.4
120	74	Chieftain Gp	74	...	...	8.8	8.2
39	18	Chillington	22	-1	0.5	3.0	...
187	90	Christies Intl	184	-1	1.5	1.1	-
58	33	Clayhithe	58	+3	2.5	5.7	...
140	80	Clayton Son	85	...	3.0	4.7	...
7	¼	Co Designers	7 #	...	0.2	...	...
400	255	Cohen (A)	375	...	10.0	...	...
247	188	Community H	200	...	6.5	4.3	12.4
240	126	Concentric	239	...	...	3.1	19.1
335	88	Cook (Wm)	173	-2	10.0	...	11.6
204½	100	Cookson	191 †	-3	...	4.3	-
60	35	Copymore	45	...	...	8.0	8.8
240	176	Crowl Phr 'A'	204	-6	5.7	3.8	17.3
178	118	Cosalt	159	-4	10.7	9.0	24.2
250	180	Creighton Nt	195	-10	...	4.8	14.1
36	20	CrestaCare	33	-1	0.7	2.8	21.3
3456½	1456½	Dana	3306½	+18½	...	...	...
685	168	Danka Bs Sys	600	-15	3.7	0.8	18.5
16	5	Davies (DY)	16	...	...	...	...
707	474	De La Rue	670	-2	15.0	3.0	20.5
25	10	Dinkie Heel	23	...	0.9	5.5	11.0
456	263	Diploma	455	+15	9.7	2.9	23.7
88	43	Dobson Park	61	...	5.7	12.6	11.0
104	90	Dyson (J&J)	97	...	5.0	6.9	13.9
66	54	-do- 'A'	65	...	5.0	10.3	9.3
18	8	EFG	17	...	...	...	...
430	355	EIS	409	...	11.7	3.8	15.2
29	9½	EIT Gp	9½ #	...	...	...	...
26	16	Elbief	24	...	...	...	...
57	23	Eleco	25	...	3.3	...	14.7
2700	1550	Electrolux 'B'	2175	-25	...	2.7	-
480	45	Elliott (B)	62	...	...	...	...
603	330	Eng China Cl	453	-1	20.0	5.9	15.6
2225	900	Ericsson 'B'	2162½	-9½	...	1.5	-
91	48	Erskine Hse	49	...	6.6	18.5	5.0
101	29	Eurocopy	43	...	1.6	5.0	16.7
158	29	Expamet	60	...	10.3	...	7.1
609	302	Fairey Group	609	+5	10.2	2.3	-
108	61	Fenner	87	...	4.2	6.4	16.4
61	18	Ferraris Group	54	...	...	2.5	12.3
1½	¼	Ferrumet	1½	...	...	...	...
51	19	Ferrum	28	...	2.5	11.9	7.6
81	33	Fife Indmar	33	...	4.9	...	4.4
403	143	Fisons	230	+1	...	5.7	21.9
61	28	Fitzwilton	33	...	15.3	...	...
255	200	Flogas	240 †	...	...	4.2	9.9
56	39	Folkes Group nv	43	...	2.3	7.4	8.7
74	42	French (Thomas)	68	-2	3.6	7.1	34.1
198½	96	Frost Group	190 ‡	-5	...	2.9	23.7
115	63	GEI Int	83	-1	7.3	11.8	17.1
489	281	GKN	472½	-7½	...	5.9	20.5
93	40	GR Hldgs	46	...	...	6.0	...
130	84	Garton Eng	84	...	7.0	...	...
162	93	Gestetner	130 †	-7	8.2	8.4	5.7
58	21	Glevex	26	...	...	...	18.8
943	652	Glaxo	665 ‡	-3	17.0	3.4	18.3
26	14	Glenchewton	25½	...	...	...	...
293	183	Glynwed	269	-5½	11.6	5.9	-
97	63	Goode Durrant	91	...	5.4	7.9	19.3
199	79	Grampian Hd	119	-1	5.5	6.2	15.4
400	102	Granada	367	-5	7.7	2.8	19.5
325	245	Great Sthrn	325	...	...	4.1	14.0
125	75	Green (Ernst)	82	...	...	11.4	11.3
11	6	Greenacre	10	...	...	3.3	10.7
20	6	Guardian Grp	13	...	...	...	...
125½	23	Haden MacIn	41	...	8.0	...	6.5

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
83	43	Hadleigh Inds	67	-3	...	...	...
169	97	Hall Eng	157	...	8.6	7.3	14.0
255	148	Halma	255	...	3.2	1.1	31.5
55	29	Hampson Ind	33	...	2.3	...	8.9
265½	184½	Hanson	244½	-4	...	6.2	12.5
343	138	Harris (Philip)	242	...	6.2	3.4	16.9
186	104	Harrison Crsfld	173	-4	9.0	6.9	29.8
99	32	Havelock Euro	47	...	1.5	...	...
4½	1	Hawthorn Les	1½	...	...	...	...
51	17	Hay (Norman)	40	-1	1.1	...	...
28	15	Headway	25	+1	0.7	3.7	13.2
437	211	Hepworth	330	-5	14.8	6.2	12.7
190	116	Hewitt (J)	185	...	3.0	2.2	-
283	15	High-Point	35	-1	1.3	...	...
147	89	Hill & Smith	129	...	6.0	6.2	16.8
10	3	Hobson	9	+½	...	...	...
104	69	Holders Tech	104	...	...	7.8	14.0
80	34	Hopkinsons	36	...	3.7	...	10.4
232	138	Hornby	143	...	...	8.4	11.2
33	6½	Hospital Crp	11	...	...	9.7	3.0
69½	30½	Howden	67 †	...	...	4.3	10.3
238	149	Hunting	237	-1	10.0	5.6	18.5
990	285	Huntigh Tech	863	...	...	0.7	31.8
306	210	IMI	259	-6	10.0	5.1	17.9
104	49	ISA Intl	103	+2	1.5	2.0	-
205	127	Intercare Gp	192	+2	...	1.8	20.3
266	175	Isotron	255	...	3.9	2.1	16.2
498	259	Jardine Math	434	-41	...	2.6	12.5
537	317	Johnson Math	440	+1	9.6	2.9	18.3
73	44½	Johnson & FB	73	...	3.0	7.7	15.0
207	104	Johnston	168	+2	9.0	...	50.9
62	14	Jones Shipman	31	+1	...	...	...
35	18	Jourdan (T)	19	...	1.5	10.5	...
49	26	Kalamazoo	42	...	...	...	34.6
154	73	Kalon	153½	-½	3.2	2.8	-
458	253	Kelsey Ind	287	...	13.0	6.0	...
550	450	Kershaw (A)	527 †	...	27.0	6.8	27.3
108	44	Kleeneze	103	...	...	...	...
90	30	LGW	88	...	...	1.7	30.6
343	229	Laird	272	-1	...	5.0	13.2
136	65	Lee (Arthur)	123	-2	5.9	6.4	52.3
136	86	Lilleshall	136	...	4.2	4.2	-
126	71	Lincat	125	-1	...	5.4	17.7
15	3	Lincoln Hse	13½	...	...	...	11.1
128	61	Linread	102	...	3.5	...	14.4
193	120	Linton Park	193	...	13.0	9.0	33.9
36	10½	Lionheart	13½	...	0.3	3.0	14.0
19½	10	Locker (T) A	16½	...	1.0	8.1	52.0
316	157½	Lon Intl	221	-2	9.4	5.7	15.0
180	57	Lonrho	83	...	...	6.4	...
351	218	Low & Bonar	351	+1	...	3.6	-
343	200	MB-Caradon	327	-4	8.5	3.5	25.6
169½	108½	-do- pf	165½	-1	7.2	5.8	...
49	12	ML Hdgs	19½	+½	1.8	...	18.8
39	19	MS Intl	34	...	2.5	9.8	47.5
50	31	MY Holdings	42	-2	...	3.2	13.8
273	171	Macfarlane	273	+5	4.2	2.1	25.8
430	220	McKechnie	419	...	14.7	4.7	21.8
119	72	McLeod Russel	96	...	6.0	8.5	11.5
12½	6½	Maddox	7½	-½	...	...	...
93	55	Magnolia	69	...	5.4	...	48.3
98	66	Mang Bronze	76	...	1.0	1.8	...
24½	15	Marling	25½	...	0.3	...	...
174	87	Mayborn	165	...	...	3.4	14.1
51	29	Mayflower	50	-1	...	1.1	24.2
301	150	Medeva	278½	-6½	2.2	1.3	-
108	66	Meggitt	92½	+½	3.6	5.2	13.8
123	90	Metair	123	...	...	3.8	16.2
137	68	Metsec	75	...	...	6.7	...
59	27	Midsumr	55	...	...	7.3	9.0
22½	14	Mining & Aid	18	-½	0.5	3.7	...
460	285	Molins	455	...	12.7	3.7	12.1
345	229	Morgan Cble	336	+2	12.6	5.0	16.4
145	79	Morris Ashby	134	...	...	4.7	11.7
31	14	Neepsend	23	-1	1.5	...	...
75	34	Nestor-BNA	57	-3	3.1	7.4	9.3
142	66	Nobo Gp	142	...	3.5	3.3	17.4
164	62	Norcros	142	-1	7.0	6.6	34.3
81	26	Nova Group	30	-1	...	1.0	...
485	310	Nu-Swift	311	...	...	8.6	8.6
53	31	Office Elec Mac	47	...	0.1	0.3	...
49	10	OMI Ind	31	...	1.7	7.5	...
155	133	PCT	133	...	...	7.0	12.1
51	47	Pacer Systems	49	...	...	2.9	...
147	94	Pentland	118	+3	2.5	2.9	-
380	260	Photo-Me	368	...	4.4	1.6	18.8
169	67	Pilkington	108	+7	6.0	7.4	39.3
34	19	Pinton	32	...	...	...	...
79	34	Plantsbrook	78	+1	...	5.1	11.4
148	93	Polypipe	146	-2	1.9	1.8	21.8
517	335	Portals	512	-3	13.8	3.6	16.6
65	18	Porter Chadbrn	26 †	-1	2.5	12.8	6.4
14	1½	Porth Gp	7½	...	...	...	...
369	204	Powerscreen	368	...	6.0	2.2	20.8
21	14½	Prospect Inds	19½	-½	0.7	5.1	9.8
53	16½	RPS Group	52	...	...	5.8	...
100	70	Radiant Metal	85	...	...	...	...
148	31	Ramco Oil	131	-6	...	2.0	...
772	444	Rank Org	664 †	+1	31.0	6.2	18.2
39	6	Ransomes	28	...	...	...	...
709	523	Reckitt Colm	625	-5	15.1	3.2	14.8
100	40	Renold	76	...	3.6	6.3	14.7

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
9½	2½	Reece	3½	...	...	...	13.1
169	105	Relyon	157	...	4.9	4.2	20.4
313	248	Renishaw	278	-1	6.5	3.1	21.1
68	44	Renold	58	...	1.0	2.3	...
1438	982	Reuters	1438	...	...	2.0	23.6
37	22½	Rexmore	29	...	1.7	8.0	7.1
120	58	Ricardo Consg	119	...	5.7	6.4	30.6
81	50	Richard (Leics)	61	...	4.4	9.6	6.1
60	47	Richardson West	64	+1	2.9	6.0	15.3
130	97	Ropner	134	...	8.2	8.9	8.9
122	95	-do- 'A'	116	...	8.2	9.5	8.3
47½	22	Ross Gp	30	-1	0.4	2.0	16.5
446	258	Rotork	445	...	10.0	3.0	20.6
135	85	Rubicon	121	...	...	1.7	...
100	51	Russell (A)	51	...	2.1	5.6	26.9
21	14	SEP Indl	20½	+1½	0.6	4.3	-
1200	612½	SKF 'B'	750	...	...	5.9	...
272	107	Sanderson Elec	248	-2	9.0	4.8	10.6
56	32	Savage	52	+3	...	0.6	68.2
45	29	Savile Grdn (I)	41 †	...	2.2	7.2	16.2
248	158	Scapa	245	-1	5.3	2.8	20.0
245	188	Scholl	201	-3	6.0	4.0	14.4
17	2½	Scot Heritable	5	...	...	...	...
990	648	Securicor	975	-3	2.6	0.4	37.1
668	469	-do- 'A'	622	-1	2.6	0.6	-
565	367	Security Serv	528	...	5.0	1.3	26.1
94	58½	Senior Eng	92½	...	3.1	4.5	15.3
361	253½	Seton Health	327	...	...	2.1	21.0
72	42	Sheldon Jones	45	...	...	...	...
146	83	Shiloh	94	+1	2.7	3.9	25.5
361	223	Sidlaw	323	-2	10.0	4.1	15.0
501	255½	Siebe	489	-10	...	2.5	20.6
305	186	Silentnight	304	+3	8.0	3.5	16.0
121	68	Sime Darby	114	...	...	3.9	13.9
304	69	Simon Eng	113	-3	15.7	18.5	14.0
290	196	Sinclair (Wm)	258	...	7.0	3.6	16.5
53	27	Six Hundred	47	...	2.5	7.1	...
171	127	Smith & Neph	150½	+1	...	4.0	20.4
566	390½	Smithkline	469½	-21½	...	2.4	18.4
509	353	Smithkline Uts	411 †	-19	...	3.2	16.1
394	255	Smiths Ind	354	-4	11.2	4.2	14.5
140	76	Sthn Bus	82	-3	3.3	5.5	7.8
350	265	Spandex	315	...	...	2.5	16.0
410	230	Spear (JW)	360	...	10.0	3.7	11.1
348	231	Spirax-Sarco	345	-1	9.0	3.5	20.6
181	83½	Spring Ram	123	-1	0.2	0.3	16.2
220	158	Staveley	255	+3	8.2	4.3	14.5
147	102	Sterling Ind	147	...	5.6	5.1	18.4
17½	12	Stonehill	12 †	...	...	...	...
150	73	Suter	149	...	8.8	7.0	13.3
319	160	Swire Pacfc 'A'	271	-26	...	2.8	19.8
19	5	Sycamore	6	...	...	...	...
300	232	Sylone	255	...	9.4	4.9	11.7
198	98	T & N	181	...	10.8	8.3	-
372	251	TI	321	+5	...	4.5	19.3
23	10	TLS Range	13	...	...	5.1	...
275	167	TT Group	268	-1	...	3.0	17.4
249	170	Takare	239	-5	1.5	0.8	23.7
798	405	Takeda Chem	793	-5	...	0.6	21.0
44½	19	Tex Hldgs	30	-1	...	...	...
79	53	Tinsley (E)	74	...	...	9.4	8.6
205	85	Thma	200	...	...	2.4	17.4
271	195	Tomkins	282	-5	...	3.2	18.4
152	36	Trafalgar H	78½	-1	...	5.5	5.7
159½	50½	-do- 'A'	75 †	-1	...	...	...
545	266½	Transfer Tech	525	-16	16.0	4.1	-
173	127½	Triplex Lloyd	173	...	7.0	5.4	15.9
253	165	UniChem	234	-3	5.0	2.8	17.3
330	250	Unidare	310	...	...	7.2	-
24	8½	Unigroup	19	...	...	...	...
1249	866	Unilever	1244	-4	20.8	2.3	-
8112½	5375	Unilever (NV)	8037½	-75	...	2.6	12.9
625	266	VSEL	580	-11	25.0	5.7	6.7
15	2½	Verson	8	...	...	...	...
179½	57	Vickers	128 †	+4	...	1.6	...
409	260	Victaulic	347	-3	7.8	3.0	-
359	231	Vinten	357	...	6.6	2.5	19.2
516	280	Vosper Thorny	514	-1	13.1	3.4	12.4
70	36½	WSP Hldgs	41	...	2.9	9.7	7.1
468	340	Wagon Ind	436	...	...	5.2	16.9
78	45	Walter Greenbk	75	...	3.1	5.5	17.9
236	110	Wassall	229	-5	...	1.5	22.8
34	15	Watford Wdgwd	29½	+½	...	...	...
675	435	Weir	654	...	10.5	2.1	19.0
1174	777	Wellcome	929	-6	13.0	1.9	25.7
39	22½	Wellman	23	...	2.2	...	8.6
480	390	Whatman	480	...	8.7	2.4	17.7
339	301	Whessoe	319	-1	...	3.3	12.4
9	4	Whewey	9	...	1.0	14.8	...
143	15	Whitecroft	38	...	4.0	...	4.1
12	3	Widney	7½	...	...	...	...
197	44	Wilkes (James)	61	+1	10.0	...	3.4
379	222	Williams Hldg	351	-2	12.5	4.9	18.0
29½	8	Wilshaw	25½	...	0.4	2.1	20.9
595	287	Wolseley	566	-1	12.5	3.0	21.6
150	100	Wood (Arthur)	125	...	4.1	4.4	13.5
80	36	Wyko	38	...	2.8	...	21.7
70	38	Young (H)	56	-2	3.0	7.1	20.5

INSURANCE

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1993½	1025	Alex & Alex	1812½	+18½	...	3.8	...
2275	1125	Am Gen	2275 ‡	+12½	...	3.3	...
66	27	Archer (AJ)	39	...	4.4	15.0	19.0
166	83	Bradstock	140 †	...	5.1	4.9	17.3
1270	762	Britannic	1270	...	29.5	3.1	...
641	389	Com Union	606 †	-6	...	5.4	...
1418	900	Dom & Gen	1418	+13	...	1.7	23.3
31	18	FAI	22	...	...	...	...
612	358	Gen Accident	597	-4	26.7	6.1	...
195	108	GRE	185	-1	7.0	5.2	...
477	212	Heath C E	358	-1	16.0	6.0	21.0
188	104	Hogg Gp	185	...	8.1	5.9	11.3
208	102	JIB Group	182	-1	...	5.5	13.4
493	287	Legal & Gen	471	-14	18.8	5.3	...
1026	357	Liberty Life	1008 †	-9	...	2.9	-
465	295	Lloyds Abbey	441	-10	17.3	5.2	15.9
295	160	Lloyd Thomp	294	-1	5.6	2.5	21.6
343	203	London & Man	335	-3	13.5	5.4	25.8
362	224	Lowndes Lmb	347	-2	12.6	4.8	13.8
6743½	3931½	Marsh McLn	6575	+62½	...	2.8	...
154	93	Ordel	95	...	...	7.0	7.0
81	30	PWS	64	...	4.0	8.3	-
342	199	Prudential	332	-5	11.0	4.4	28.8
1023	564	Refuge	1020	...	31.5	4.2	-
306	118	Royal	296 †	-4	5.0	2.3	...
240	100	Sedgwick	180 †	-2	6.0	4.4	21.7
321	162	Steel Burrill	244	...	13.2	7.2	15.4
232	53	Sturge Hldgs	62	-3	8.2	17.7	6.3
358	214	Sun Alliance	339	+1	14.2	5.6	...
61	20	Trade Indemnty	56	...	...	...	...
287	165	Transatlantic	282 †	-5	12.0	5.7	-
650	305	Utd Friendly	650	...	12.3	2.5	33.0
274	144	Willis Corroon	199	-9	...	4.5	-
21	13½	Windsor	15	...	...	...	11.8

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1706	1318	Alliance	1689	-11	43.0	3.4	39.0
260	152	Amer Trust	256	-3	4.9	2.6	-
343	229	Ang & O'seas	339 †	-3	6.8	2.7	-
138½	98½	BZW Conv	134	-1	7.8	7.8	15.7
159	104	Bankers	155	-2	3.4	3.0	42.6
298	210	Baring Tribne	289 †	-3	6.4	3.0	45.7
172	116	Berry Starq	145	...	2.0	1.8	49.0
105½	71½	Br Assets	101½	-3	...	5.6	24.8
65	46½	Br Empire Sec	64	-½	0.8	1.9	65.0
17	8½	-do- Wnts	16	...	...	...	...
173	123	Br Inv	171	-2	4.5	3.5	42.9
166	125	Conti Asset	161 †	-2	2.4	2.0	53.6
230	146	Derby Inc	148	...	16.6	15.0	8.9
235	140	-do- Cap	233	-10	...	...	...
119	65	Drayton Asia	117	-1	0.7	0.8	...
96	59	-do- Blue Chip	72	-1	8.4	16.2	7.8
57	26	-do- Eng Intl	56	...	1.2	2.9	...
108	61	-do- Far East	102	-2	0.6	0.8	...
101	56	-do- Korea	96	-1	...	...	...
631	473	Dunedin Inc G	626	-4	25.4	5.6	-
582	407	-do- Wwide	573	-5	9.5	2.2	59.0
278	203	Dundee & Lon	257	-2	12.0	6.0	24.6
61	36	EFM Inc Tst	49½	-5	4.8	13.1	8.9
54	40½	-do- Div Pf	52½	...	...	...	...
274	190	Edinburgh	269	-5	8.0	4.0	32.9
155	107	Electric Gen	153	-2	3.1	2.7	48.7
97	65	English Scot	97	...	...	...	...
253	186	European Asset	247	-3	...	3.1	...
104	68	Finsbury 'A'	89	...	3.0	4.5	28.6
290	162	Fleming Amer	276	-3	0.7	0.3	...
411	302	-do- Claver	406	...	10.7	3.5	40.0
266	173	-do- Contl	262	-3	2.8	1.4	...
167	119	-do- Entp	167	+1	4.5	3.6	37.5
256	157	-do- F East	249	-3	1.5	0.8	...
305	198	-do- Fledg	304½	+½	3.0	1.3	...
116	81	-do- Fl Inc	112½	-1½	5.8	6.9	19.1
164	100	-do- Japan	162	+3	0.3	0.3	...
271	193½	-do- Merc	256	-3	6.7	3.5	-
251	165½	-do- Overs	249	-2	4.0	2.1	59.4
229	150	Foreign & Col	227	-2	3.5	2.0	-
210	144	-do- Eurotst	207½	-1½	1.2	0.8	...
107	71	-do- German	104	-2	0.4	0.5	...
232	134	-do- Pacific	228	...	1.7	1.0	...
137½	79	-do- Smaller	134	-2	...	1.8	68.1
205	121	GT Japan	179	+1	...	0.9	...
110	49	Genl Cons Cap	108	-1	...	...	...
123½	96	-do- Inc	109	-1	...	10.3	11.3
145	82	Govett Am Smlr	135	-1	...	...	...
232	128	-do- Oriental	224	-5	0.9	0.5	...
246	150	-do- Strategy	239	-3	6.7	3.8	33.0
390	265	Greenfriar	370	...	6.3	2.3	55.6
28	¼	Gresham House	5	...	...	...	...
38	31	Independent Inv	51½	-½	0.5	1.3	...
134	95	Inv Cap	132	-1	3.1	3.2	26.5
95	67	IRS UK Smllr	87½	-1½	2.0	3.0	21.6
178	128	Kleinwort Chm	178	-4	5.0	3.7	34.6
203	134½	-do- O'seas	198½	-3½	3.3	2.2	-
126	85	-do- Smlr	111	-5	4.0	4.9	...
595	433	Law Debenture	585	-8	...	4.0	30.7
171	137½	Majedie	171	...	...	3.7	31.1
249	176	Merchants	244	-3	10.6	5.9	-
4993½	3437½	Merrill Lynch	4993½	+56½	...	...	...
440	296	Monks Inv Tst	424	-8	6.7	2.1	57.1
120	81	Morg Gren Inc	118	-1	...	5.2	23.4
32	13	Do Warrants	32	...	...	...	...
42	33	Murray Euro	46	...	0.1	0.5	-
11	4½	Do Wts	10	...	...	...	...
315	223	Murray Income	305 †	-3	...	4.7	29.0
319	215	-do- Ind	312	-2	11.4	4.9	-
312	213	-do- Small	309	-3	4.0	1.7	66.8
109	89	-do- S/C Inc	100	...	...	14.1	9.7
88	54	-do- S/C Cap	87	-1	...	...	...
3050	2250	-do- S/C Uts	2950	...	...	4.8	...
147½	113½	-do- S/C DP	143½	...	...	...	...
260	189	-do- Vent	256	-1½	10.3	5.4	20.2
71	44½	New Frontier	68½	-2½	0.2	0.5	...
103	61	Nwthrog Inc	85	...	6.7	10.8	11.7
283	187	O'seas Inv Tst	278	-3	2.8	1.3	79.3
382	173	Pacific Assets	377	-11	1.1	0.4	-
264	80	Do Warrants	239	-10	...	...	...
8000	5700	Personal Assets	8200	...	...	2.6	49.0
118	82	RIT Cap Prtr	116	-1	1.1	1.3	52.5
125	96	River & Merc	118 †	-3	9.2	10.4	11.8
398	273	Robeco	398	+10	...	3.4	...
388	268	Rolinco	388	+13	...	2.1	...
239	194	St Andrew Inv	238	...	7.5	4.2	...
148½	108	Scot American	142½	-2½	4.3	4.1	30.1
945	429	Scott Asian	908	-12	...	...	...
73	49	-do- Eastern	70	-1	1.5	2.9	-
201	147	Scottish	195	-3	4.6	3.2	40.4
201	135	-do- Mtge	194	-3	3.9	2.7	45.7
79	48	-do- Value	78½	-½	...	3.1	55.9
1503	1066	Second Allnce	1493 †	-7	36.5	3.3	40.1
84½	61	Secs Tst of Scot	83½	-1	3.2	5.2	27.9
130	78½	Selective Asset	128 †	-1	1.2	1.3	46.0
21½	9½	Sphere Inv	21	-½	...	19.2	5.9
138	76	TR Far East	134	-2	4.5	4.5	29.4
140½	97½	TR City Of Lon	136½	-2½	4.7	4.6	28.7
141	70	TR Pacific	128	-4	0.3	0.4	...
27	14½	TR Property	20½	...	1.4	...	61.0
89	18	TR Tech Inv	63	-1	1.7	3.7	31.2
170	96	TR Smlr Cos	166	-2	3.7	3.0	48.6
315	226	Temple Bar	302 †	-4	13.2	5.8	22.8
90	51	Thrgtn Asian E	85	-2	0.5	0.8	-
66	39	Throgmorton	58½	-1½	2.3	5.2	23.9
418	266	Throg Dual Cp	408	-10	...	...	...
195	137	USDC Invest	194	-1	4.5	3.1	-
90	58½	Value Inc Tst	89½	-½	...	5.4	25.6
627	483	Whitbread Inv	566	-8	15.0	3.5	37.6
195	139	Witan	191	-2	5.6	3.9	33.5

LEISURE

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
69½	2	Airbreak Leis	3½ #	...	...	...	0.7
345	172	Airtours	339	+6	7.2	2.9	12.0
85	17	Ald Leis	49	...	4.7	...	14.0
243	145	Anglia TV	231	+3	...	4.5	21.0
229	135	Barr & W 'A'	229	...	10.0	5.8	11.4
1195	795	Boosey Hwks	1175	...	20.0	2.3	18.8
113	70	Border TV	98	...	...	3.7	12.8
16½	4	Brent Walker	10½	-½	...	...	...
15	2½	Buckingham Int	9½	-½	...	...	...
448	200	Campari	391	...	...	5.1	7.9
226	126	Capital Radio	196	...	5.2	3.4	22.8
818	408	Carlton Comm	774 †	-12	17.0	2.9	22.8
223	120	Castle Comms	193	-5	...	6.0	17.3
1825	1050	Central TV	1793	...	30.5	2.3	23.0
88	49	Chrysalis	73	...	...	...	...
606	405	Compass Gp	606	+1	12.3	2.7	17.2
350	251	Eurocamp	251	-8	9.7	5.2	-
1693	673	Euro Disney	1065	-3	...	1.1	...
10	1	Euro Leisure	4½	-½	...	...	8.3
36	11	Ex-Lands	20	...	...	...	...
448	110	Fairline Boats	313	-3	10.5	4.5	...
355	239	First Leisure	353 †	+5	6.1	2.3	24.4
515	250	GWR Gp	500	...	...	1.8	25.7
181	91	Grampian	171	...	5.5	4.3	12.0
8	5	Greenwich Comm	5	-1	...	...	...
92	13	HTV Group	30	...	3.7	...	...
208	30	Hi-Tec Sports	46	...	5.5	...	2.9
18½	2½	Kunick	8½	-½	...	...	...
338	220	LWT CP	334	...	5.9	2.4	16.3
380	260	Man Utd	380	...	18.0	6.3	13.1
148	44½	Owners Abrd	147 †	+6	3.5	3.2	11.8
44	19	The Pelican Gp	44	...	...	3.0	15.1
130	50	Prism Leisure	121	...	...	3.0	13.8
61	17	Quadrant Grp	17	...	4.0	...	2.6
319	274	Radio Clyde	312	...	...	3.6	24.4
177	125	Ransdens (H)	133	-2	...	4.5	-
502	202½	Scot TV	485	...	...	2.2	31.2
66	40	Southern Radio	50	...	0.7	2.1	20.8
209	125	Stanley Leisure	207	-2	...	2.7	17.5
13	4	Smleigh	5½	...	...	...	...
195	135	Sunset & Vine	143	...	3.5	3.3	15.4
53	27	TSW	29 #	...	...	22.7	3.7
44	3½	TVS	38	...	...	...	3.2
420	136	Tanjong	420	...	...	...	79.1
200	134	Thames TV	175	...	7.5	5.7	5.0
14½	1	Ticketing	2½	...	...	...	...
118	75	Tottenham Hot	95	-8	...	...	3.1
78	38	Trans World	73	-2	...	1.5	-
321	154	Ulster TV	321	...	7.5	3.1	22.3
50	16	Wembley	17	...	1.8	...	...
25	4½	Whitegate	22	...	...	...	...
191½	110	Yorkshire TV	143	+3	12.0	11.2	4.3
136	80	Zetters Gp	104	...	8.0	10.3	10.5

MINING

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
4112½	1800	Am Gold	2725	-46½	...	8.1	12.3
2237½	1000	Ang Am Coal	1275	-12½	...	8.0	5.5
2275	1012½	Ang Am	1487½	...	...	5.1	9.3
18½	7½	Anglo Pac Res	16½	-½	...	...	...
110	33	Blyvoors	65	...	...	10.5	3.2
25	11	Bracken	23	...	...	...	1.2
566	208	Buffels	358	+9	...	12.5	7.8
4½	1½	Butte	1½	...	...	...	...
674	437	CRA	672	-2	...	3.1	-
38	9	Cluff Res	11½	+½	...	...	...
1662½	581½	De Beers	1000	-25	...	5.3	-
125	37½	Deelkraal	47	...	...	14.3	2.3
46	7	Doornfontein	13	...	...	...	...
759	388	Driefontein	523	-5	...	7.1	8.7
375	120	Durban	192	...	...	...	...
121	39	E Rand Gold	75	+4	...	15.3	2.2
154	62	E Dagga	91	+7	...	...	6.8
168	54	E Rand Prop	153	...	...	...	...
470	117	Elandsrand	179	...	...	7.6	3.7
535	272	FS Cons	502	+9	...	10.6	5.1
33	7	FS Dev	10	-1	...	...	...
1491	806	GFSA	981	-32	...	4.6	13.9
222	121	Gencor	144	...	...	6.9	11.2
44½	29½	GM Kalgoorli	43	+1	...	3.2	10.5
16½	2	Greenwich R 'A'	13½	...	...	...	...
89	44	Groovlei	65	+4	...	18.0	-
368	78	Harmony	171	+3	...	...	...
281½	87	Hartles	140	...	...	...	4.8
14	5	Inoco	10	...	...	...	...
820	486	Impala Plat	628	+18	...	...	12.8
8	2½	Kenmare Res	7	...	...	...	...
795	292	Kinross	523	+17	...	10.7	5.2
624	293	Kloof	506	+4	...	3.9	7.7
60	21½	Leslie	44	+4	...	10.5	4.0
71	12	Loraine	21	...	...	...	...
	90½	MIM	110½	...	...	2.1	50.6
955	559	Minorco	928	+7	...	4.1	10.9
114½	66	Nth Brkn Hill	114½	+1	...	4.3	-
1201	598	Orange Free	1087½	+12½	...	12.8	8.7
704	469	RTZ	670	-5	19.5	4.0	28.7
1287½	375	Rand Mines	500	-12½	...	13.0	2.1
230	75	Rand Min Prp	107	-3	...	17.4	4.7
334	136	Randfontein	244	...	...	7.8	3.3
221	106	Renison	157	...	...	2.9	15.3
1312½	812½	Rustnbrg	908½	...	...	5.6	12.9
410	183	St Helena	345	...	...	7.7	-
1287½	475	Southvaal	800	+25	...	8.1	12.4
60	17½	Stilfontein	45	...	...	16.4	-
183	43	Unisel	91	...	...	3.7	8.1
4000	1500	Vaal Reefs	2725	+37½	...	8.9	4.2
324	154	Welkom	288	+4	...	12.5	8.0
99½	26	Western Areas	44	...	...	...	...
2375	587½	Western Deep	1062½	+9½	...	6.6	4.4
344	164	Wstrn Mining	241	-1	...	...	...
630	255	Winkels	515	+44	...	2.2	3.8
84	16	Zambia Copper	79	+4	...	...	...
45	18	Zandpan	22	...	...	...	6.2

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
400	228	Abbey Panels	233	...	0.1	0.1	18.5
125	90	Airflow Stream	123	...	7.8	9.9	77.5
123	56	Appleyard	105	...	8.2	7.3	14.8
263	130	Blechley Mtr	263	...	0.0	5.7	38.1
145	115	Bostrom	140	+3	...	...	...
379	100	Br Aerospace	275 †	-5	7.0	3.4	...
378	303	Caffyns	323	...	11.5	4.7	43.0
9½	3	Caverdale	8½	-½	...	...	...
139	95	Central Mtr	120	+2	...	4.4	30.5
48	15½	Cook (DC)	21	...	...	...	...
226	99	Cowie (T)	217	-3	6.2	3.9	-
133	75	Dag Motors	105	...	5.7	7.3	12.4
140	85	Davnprt Vern	140 †	...	4.0	3.8	17.3
264	130	ERF	220	+2	4.0	...	...
137	68	European Mtr	95	-2	...	2.1	...
316	167	Evans Halshaw	268	...	11.2	5.6	25.0
290	163	FR Group	282	-2	6.6	3.2	13.5
3581½	1500	Ford Motor	3443½	-31½	...	...	...
2675	1681½	General Mtr	2725	-62½	...	1.8	...
53	35	Gowrings	45	...	2.0	5.9	...
123	43	Henlys	119	-3	3.0	3.4	...
827	465	Honda Motor	827	+23	...	0.7	...
31	10	Jacks (Wm)	21	...	...	...	...
95	49	Jessups	81	-1	4.5	7.4	...
225	68	Kwik-Fit	97	-4	3.3	4.6	9.6
326	175	Lex Service	311	-1	10.0	4.3	...
128	74	Lookers	114	-2	6.2	7.5	...
153	77	Lucas	144	+½	7.0	6.5	...
285	169	Pendragon	285	+3	6.0	2.8	25.5
175	103	Perry Gp	148	-3	9.0	8.1	26.5
145	56	Quicks Group	143	-2	3.0	2.8	26.4
176	89	Rolls-Royce	128	-3½	5.0	5.3	...
160	99	Vardy (Reg)	133	-2	4.0	4.0	20.3
170	93	Wesland	170	...	4.2	3.3	15.0

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
144	73	Adscene	133 †	...	4.0	4.0	14.2
390	315	Black (A&C)	325	...	13.0	5.3	19.4
598	398	Blenheim Gp	593	...	9.0	2.0	22.2
330	248	Bristol	280	...	11.5	5.5	20.8
8300	5900	Daily Mail	8075	-25	130	2.1	18.2
8300	5800	Daily Mail 'A'	8075	-50	130	2.1	18.2
301	193	Dorling Kind	300	...	...	1.3	28.7
365	224½	EMAP	330	-7	...	3.0	21.5
983	533	Euromoney Pb	938	-5	29.5	4.2	21.1
237	125	Harrington E	223	-1	4.5	2.7	-
358	155	Haynes Pub	318	...	6.0	2.5	13.5
247½	140	Headline	243	-5	10.0	1.6	27.0
183	105	Home Counts	140	...	8.2	7.9	26.4
6½	2	Intl Bus Comm	4½	...	...	...	...
14½	6½	Intl Cm & Data	7½	...	...	...	...
430	285	Independent	425	+2	...	4.5	15.3
510	289	Johnstone Press	510	+2	5.5	1.4	24.1
288	186	Metal Bulletin	257	...	8.0	3.8	-
125	49	Mirror Gp	98	-4	...	...	9.3
368	127½	News Corp	363 ‡	...	...	0.3	24.4
764	258	News Intl	753	+10	3.9	0.7	13.0
459½	297	Pearson	378	-12	...	4.1	17.7
640	340	Portsmth Sund	640	...	8.6	1.8	16.5
682	447	Reed Int	642	-4	16.0	3.3	21.3
158	61	Southnews	138	...	...	1.4	40.7
130	39	Sterling Pub	119	-5	...	2.8	39.1
368	274	Telegraph	333	-4	11.0	4.5	-
815	565	Thomson Corp	775	+20	25.2	4.3	13.2
347	222	Trinity Intl	314	...	...	3.6	18.5
62	29	Unit Group	34	...	...	...	...
547	323	Utd Newspprs	539	-8	21.0	5.2	18.5

OILS, GAS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
19½	6	Aberdeen Petr	15½	...	...	...	-
28½	11½	Aran Energy	27	-1	...	...	...
68	23	Arcon Intl	44	+1	...	...	...
53	27	Aus Oil & Gas	50	...	...	...	...
290	20	Aviva Pet	67	-3	...	...	...
48	8	Beverley	10	...	0.6	...	...
195	105	Br Borneo	181	...	7.1	5.2	19.4
311	223	British Gas	303½	-6½	...	6.4	13.2
304	182	Br Petroleum	280½	-5½	...	5.0	35.2
4½	1	Bula Resources	1½	...	...	...	...
741	460	Burmah Castl	710	-9	24.0	4.5	16.2
75	21	Cairn Energy	47	...	...	...	...
253	164	Calor Gp	248	...	12.0	6.5	16.3
80	20	Clyde Pet	59	...	1.2	...	...
16½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	13½	...	...	...	...
509	297	Enterprise	485	-12	...	4.5	36.4
103	25	Exp Co Louis	70	+2	...	...	...
28½	14½	Fairhaven Intl	24	...	...	1.1	8.9
69	34	Goal Pet	64	...	1.2	2.6	12.1
31	5	Gt Western Res	25	...	...	...	...
149	77	Hardy O & G	149	+1	1.0	0.9	46.8
28	7½	Kelt Energy	28	...	...	...	...
263	112	LASMO	179½	-2½	8.5	6.3	23.2
163	63	-do- Units	94	...	15.0	21.3	...
51	11	Mid Scot Res	19½	-½	...	...	...
[illegible]	27	Monument	42½	-½	...	...	44.0
18½	5	New London	8½	-½	...	...	...
35½	17	Nth Sea Assets	28	...	0.7	3.6	7.3
37	25	Oil Search	32	...	...	...	...
14½	8	Petroz	14½	...	...	...	...
110	57	Pict Pet	110	...	...	...	15.3
31	10	Premier	25½	-2	...	...	11.5
198	40	Presidio	75	...	...	8.4	...
430	308	Ranger	353	-5	...	4.9	...
6000	4162½	Royal Dtch Fl	5937½	-62½	...	5.4	-
4312½	3025	Schlumberger	3987½	-87½	...	2.1	...
62	41	Seafield	62	+1	...	...	...
605	435	Shell	576½ ‡	-4½	21.0	5.1	-
206	110	Sunrise Eng Sv	197	...	...	...	...
19	7½	Teredo	9	...	...	...	...
82	26	Triton Europe	30	-1	...	...	4.8
10	6½	Villiers Grp	7½	...	...	...	...
172	131	Woodside	167	-2	...	2.2	...

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PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
303	103	API	302	-1	7.5	3.3	26.3
230	127½	Arjo Wiggins	171	-4	8.3	...	13.9
461	365	Abbott Mead	460	...	8.4	2.4	23.1
3	¼	Aexis Group	1½	...	...	...	...
128	13	Aegis Gp	14½	...	5.8	...	4.9
212	105	Aspen Comms	196	...	...	3.3	26.9
13	7	BBB Design	9½	...	...	...	...
341	180	Bemrose	333	...	11.7	4.7	17.0
60	16	Birkdale	17	...	0.2	1.6	14.4
138	80	Bunzl	129	+1	4.0	4.1	30.1
267	147	CIA Gp	266	...	...	1.9	17.6
51	36	City of Lon	50	...	...	9.1	10.5
214	135	Cropper (James)	202	...	3.0	2.0	23.0
41	6	Crown Comm	6 #	...	...	...	...
73	30	Delyn Pckaging	63	...	1.4	3.1	12.5
149	78	Dolphin Pack	106	...	4.5	5.7	14.1
74½	42	Dudley Jenkins	51	+1	...	...	13.1
15	9½	Elswick	12½	...	0.2	...	10.5
68	38	Fairway Group	55 †	...	...	7.6	16.2
293	211	Ferguson Intl	292	...	12.5	5.7	16.8
140	65	Ferry Pick	105	...	7.5	9.2	-
106	25	Filofax	96	-2	...	0.6	34.0
48	6	Fitch	16	...	...	...	1.8
71	47	Gibbon Lyons	69	...	...	9.7	13.5
295	185½	Gold Greenless	281 †	+1	...	3.9	22.8
53	20	Goodhead	23	...	0.5	2.9	...
160	32½	Hunterprint	78	-2	...	...	...
180	138	Interurope	138	...	7.4	7.3	9.0
220	123	Jarvis Porter	220	...	4.4	2.7	24.0
50	13	Lopex	35	...	...	...	14.6
263	133	More O'Ferrall	229	...	13.2	7.7	14.2
78	27	NMC Group	62	-4	1.2	...	12.2
86	58	Osborne & Little	84	...	4.3	6.9	10.8
189	132	Quarto	180	...	5.2	5.1	9.5
343	231	St Ives Gp	340	+1	5.2	2.1	23.2
245	115	Saatchi	182	+2	...	...	...
754	381	Sappi	427	+9	...	9.1	8.0
19½	1½	Serif	16½	...	...	...	...
43	3	Shandwick	23½	...	...	...	...
351	233	Smith David	328	+12	9.5	3.9	14.5
335	210	Smurfit (Jeff)	268	-6	...	0.5	9.2
263	171	Stat-Plus	235	...	8.0	4.6	-
21½	10½	Taylor Nelson	20½	+½	...	1.0	43.2
65	37	VTR	51	...	...	8.9	14.5
115	31	WPP	67	-3	1.0	2.3	...
195	48	Wace	70	+1	8.2	15.7	7.7
221	158	Waddington (J)	210	...	7.9	5.0	15.9
605	391	Watmough	605	+2	10.5	2.3	26.4
6½	1½	Westport	5½	-½	...	...	19.7
39	12	Whitney Mck	16	...	...	...	...
75	51	Wood (SW)	63	...	0.2	0.5	...

PROPERTY

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
86	28	Allied Lon	59	...	3.5	8.0	50.9
70	55	Arcadian	61	...	...	...	...
73	34	Asda	64	+4	2.0	4.2	22.8
141	64	Avonside	99	...	...	7.8	8.0
2637½	1887½	BCE	2562½	-12½	...	...	...
490	268	Bilton	488	...	18.0	4.9	17.6
45	23	Bourne End	25	...	1.0	5.3	...
168	108	Bradford	163	-1	4.4	3.6	14.8
38	11	Bredero	19	...	...	...	1.8
275	110	Br Land	250	-2	6.3	3.4	23.1
192	108	Brixton	186	-3	8.1	5.8	14.2
57	44	Burford	51	-1	0.9	2.5	26.6
134	88	Cap & Regnl	134	+1	...	1.0	...
200	75	Cardiff Prop	125	...	2.4	2.6	...
433	103	Chesterfield	225	...	18.5	...	15.9
80	9	City Site Ests	31	...	1.4	...	...
40	8	Clarke Nickolls	16	...	0.3	...	3.9
32	8	Clayform	11½	-½	...	...	...
953	785	Daejan	948	-2	25.0	3.5	14.8
4½	¼	Dares Estates	1½	...	...	...	...
83	30	Debenham Twsn	83	+1	2.5	4.0	30.2
12	1	De Morgan	7	...	...	...	...
135	76	Dencora	88	...	5.3	8.5	...
540	263	Derwent Hldgs	335	+2	8.6	3.4	39.7
250	170	Estates Agency	210	...	3.0	1.9	19.3
96	6	Estates Gen	14	...	3.7	...	4.4
148	100	Evans Of Leeds	139	-1	4.1	4.0	13.3
31	11	Five Oaks	19	...	...	...	...
55	28	Fletcher King	51	...	1.0	2.6	36.9
350	188	Frogmore	350	+1	15.0	5.7	18.3
125	51	Grainger	122	...	5.2	5.7	22.3
182	84	Gr Portland	163	+4	10.0	8.2	16.2
114	6½	Greycoat	10½	...	5.2	...	...
129	63	HK Land	113	-12	...	4.5	19.0
48	19	Hambro Cntryw	47	...	...	...	...
588	180	Hammerson	366	-5	10.0	3.6	10.5
503	165	-do- 'A'	335	-4	10.0	4.0	16.1
150	69	Helical Bar	146	-2	4.0	3.7	...
30	19	Hemingway	19	...	...	...	...
175	83	Herring Baker	86	...	7.0	10.9	...
225	133	Jermyn	133	...	1.5	1.5	...
504	343	Land Sec	498	-1	21.7	5.8	15.1
85	62	Lon Merch Sec	84	...	3.8	6.0	13.4
3½	1½	Lon & Metro	3½	...	...	...	...
411	196	MEPC	381	-3	20.0	7.0	16.0
6½	3	McInerney A	6½	...	...	...	...
145	76	McKay Secs	104	...	0.7	...	17.1
10	3	Marlheath	7	...	0.5	...	...
133	8	Merivale Mre	25	-½	1.0	5.3	...
5	3	Merlin Intl	5 #	...	...	...	...
46	27	Moorfield Est	32	...	...	0.4	...
1075	550	Mountview	900	...	16.0	3.0	5.2
4	1	Mowat	2½ #	...	...	...	...
139	101	Mucklow (A&J)	136	-1	5.9	5.9	18.7
117	30	Olive Hldgs	31	...	9.0	...	4.7
30	3	Ossory Est	9½	...	0.1	2.2	2.7
201	85	Peel	195	...	3.0	2.1	...
103	3	Power Corp	9	...	...	...	1.0
115	54	Prop Security	114	...	3.7	4.4	22.7
122½	14½	Property Trust	33	...	...	...	...
4½	¼	Raglan	2	...	...	...	...
66	1½	Regalian	14½	+½	1.5	14.0	3.8
10½	3½	Rosehaugh	7½ #	...	...	...	...
175	125	Rowlinson Secs	125	...	1.3	1.4	26.6
27	12	St Modwen Prp	27 †	...	0.6	3.0	20.6
51	29	Savills	51	...	...	...	...
72	18	Scot Met	55	...	1.5	3.6	...
68	39	Shaftesbury	68	...	...	...	...
12½	2	Shield	10	...	...	...	...
36	11	Sinclair Gldsm	35 #	...	0.5	1.9	...
248	83	Slough Estates	187	-3	8.1	5.8	10.6
78	36	Southend Prop	61	+2	4.1	9.1	30.8
20½	2½	Speyhawk	13	...	...	...	...
39	9	Stanhope Prps	19½	...	...	...	...
171	105	Tops Ests	141	...	2.0	1.9	36.5
94	58	Town Centre	93	...	3.1	4.4	18.1
62	35	Trafford Park	59	...	2.5	5.8	15.0
35	7	UK Land	17	...	...	...	...
9½	4	Union Square	9	...	...	...	...
217	119	Warner	193 †	-3	10.5	7.3	17.6
245	168	Warnford	180 †	...	7.2	5.4	12.5
8	1	Waterglade	6½	...	...	...	...
91	23	Wates	40½	-½	0.7	2.5	...
44	17	Wood John D	42	-1	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	9	Automagic	12	...	...	...	...
103	42	Headlam	103	...	2.4	3.1	40.8
500	265	Lambert	475	...	12.5	3.5	12.4
111	63	Pittard Garnar	93	...	1.5	2.2	12.3
41	18	Strong & Fisher	22	...	1.0	6.3	5.8
193	88	Stylo	126	...	2.5	2.6	...

TEXTILES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
485	362	Allied Text	460	...	12.6	3.5	-
73	47	Beckman (A)	61	...	4.7	10.4	12.1
52	21	Bolton Gp	23	...	...	...	11.7
164	138	Br Mohair	160	...	8.5	7.1	12.6
119	50	Celestion	117	...	1.2	1.4	...
41	15	Chartwell	20	...	0.4	2.7	...
341	186½	Claremont Ga	340	...	...	1.5	23.4
601	384	Courtauld Txt	594	...	13.6	3.1	-
248½	160	Dawson	235	-2	9.0	5.1	22.9
59	17	Drummond	23	-1	1.5	...	7.7
60	17½	Dunkeld	31	...	...	...	...
73	60	Faupel	72	...	...	9.1	7.1
68	34	Foster (John)	29	...	0.5	2.3	...
142	84	Gaskell	85	...	8.5	...	...
186	99	Hicking Pntcst	171	...	3.4	2.7	14.5
73	38	Jerome (S)	49	...	1.0	...	...
389	215	Lamont	319	+3	...	5.0	15.6
420	305½	Leeds	420	+1	...	2.3	20.3
42	15	Lister	39	-1	0.1	0.3	...
122	81	Lyles (S)	116	...	4.9	5.6	13.2
94	55	Parkland 'A'	93	...	2.0	2.9	...
95½	63	Readicut	94	...	3.4	4.9	18.7
71	30	SEET	45	...	...	...	...
94	67	Sirdar	91	-1	5.1	7.7	15.7
95	29	Stirling Gp	54	...	1.6	4.1	22.4
59	31	Stoddard	43	-5	2.6	8.1	11.5
312	198	Tomkinsons	309	...	11.5	5.0	26.7
62½	30	West Trust	48	-5	...	...	...
356	160	Yorklyde	345	...	9.7	3.8	16.1

TOBACCOS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1010	608	BAT	948	-13	...	5.4	20.0
670	480	Rothmans 'B'	654	-1	10.2	2.1	14.9

TRANSPORT

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
440	211	Assoc Br Ports	402	-1	9.5	2.9	...
816	531	BAA	795	-5	14.5	2.4	14.0
315	219	Br Airways	295	-2	10.1	4.6	7.9
182	45	Clarkson (H)	74	-1	8.0	...	3.5
101	11	Davies Newman	23 #	...	...	...	...
515	293	Eurotunnel Uts	474	-11	...	...	...
88	44	Fisher (James)	49	...	5.5	...	13.7
140	70	Graig	132	-1	4.5	4.4	...
203	147	IoM Steam	156	...	...	6.4	7.5
39	22	Jacobs (JI)	30	...	1.9	8.4	17.9
69	41	Lon O'seas Frs	67	...	1.2	2.5	4.1
2162½	1337½	Manchstr Sh	2162½	+37½	4.5	0.3	11.8
343	190	Mersey Docks	342	-1	7.5	3.0	-
210	160	Nat Express	197	...	...	4.5	13.0
290	216	NFC	253	-3	6.5	3.5	19.1
357	170	Ocean Group	291	-4	14.3	6.6	13.2
63	31	Ocean Wilson	52	-1	...	6.8	11.6
584	289½	P & O Dfd	566	-9	30.5	7.2	20.0
156	97	P & O 5 1/2%	132	-1	...	5.6	...
529	267	Powell Duffryn	529	-2	22.6	5.7	21.1
138	96	Seacon	118	-1	...	5.8	7.4
50	23½	TIP Europe	29½	...	1.4	6.3	7.2
87	24	TNT	43	+3	...	...	...
745	495½	Tibbet & Britten	730	...	...	2.0	29.2
478	214	Tiphook	364	-10	17.3	6.3	7.2
307	208	TDG	286	-10	9.5	4.9	-

WATER

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
536	308½	Anglian Water	528	-6	19.3	4.9	9.6
623	336	Northumbrian	615	-4	20.8	4.4	6.4
524	323	North West	511	-6	19.6	5.1	9.0
515	298	Severn Trent	509	-4	19.3	5.1	7.4
531	301	Sthn Water	523	-4	19.5	5.0	9.2
1300	670	Sth Staffs	1285	...	40.2	4.2	8.3
555	306	South West	546	-9	21.7	5.3	8.3
544	334	Thames Water	539	-5	19.2	4.7	10.2
593	337	Welsh Water	587	-3	21.4	4.9	6.8
636	358½	Wessex Water	627	-8	...	4.1	8.5
575	336	Yorkshire W	522	-3	19.5	4.5	9.2

Source: Finstat

▲USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; * Ex rights issue; ↓ Ex all; ¶ Ex capital distribution; = Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Masterrust	113.30	121.10	+ 2.80	1.40
International	84.21	89.58	+ 2.87	1.14
Dividend Gth	57.17	60.81	+ 0.38	4.93
Global Gth Sec	60.33	64.18	+ 0.36	2.85
Ethical Growth	65.18	69.33	- 0.99	2.74
High Inc Equity	151.80	161.40	+ 0.80	5.27
Worldwide Bond	269.60	285.90†	+ 3.00	4.57
Gilts Fixed Int	129.30	137.10*	...	6.90

ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580
30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Inc Gth	45.68	48.25	+ 1.37	1.75
European	81.62	86.52†	+ 1.32	...
European Inc	78.92	83.74†	+ 1.04	1.60
Exempt	903.90	933.10	+ 5.40	3.28
Extra Inc	42.33	45.90*	+ 0.44	5.48
F East Emerg Ec	82.56	89.10	+ 0.41	0.72

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Inc	369.70	395.20†	- 0.20	4.26
Equity Inc	207.50	221.80†	- 1.80	4.11
High Yield	232.70	248.70	- 0.30	4.18
Balanced	636.60	680.50	+ 4.70	2.79
American Inc	50.21	53.67†	+ 0.94	3.19
Wld Asset Val	38.58	41.24	- 0.47	1.99
Japan	153.80	162.80	-10.90	0.01
Secs of Am	440.60	468.80	+10.00	0.43

AXA EQUITY & LAW
St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth Acc	313.10	331.10	- 0.60	2.89
-do- Inc	224.40	238.80	- 1.00	2.89
Higher Inc Acc	560.80	596.70	- 0.20	4.02
-do- Inc	346.00	368.10	- 0.10	4.02
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	176.20	185.90†	+ 0.10	6.64
-do- Inc	92.32	97.51†	- 0.11	6.64
Nth America	275.10	292.70	+ 9.10	...
Far East	264.60	281.50	+ 5.40	0.35
Europe	220.30	234.40†	- 3.10	1.25
General Inc	422.40	449.40†	- 1.20	2.58
-do- Acc	463.70	493.30†	- 5.20	2.58
Brit Excel	64.08	68.17	- 0.56	2.86
Brit Fndmtls Inc	65.05	69.21†	- 0.75	5.38
Brit Fndmtls Acc	83.84	89.20†	+ 0.07	5.38

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Capital	106.60	114.10†	+ 0.10	3.19
Euro Gth Inc	115.10	122.10	+ 1.60	1.02
Extra Inc	105.20	112.50	- 0.80	5.52
General	240.90	257.60	+ 1.00	3.46
Gilt Fxd Inc	58.14	60.12†	- 0.16	8.64
Income	472.40	505.20†	+ 1.20	4.78

BARING FUND MANAGERS
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gth	96.48	102.40	- 3.85	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	126.40	135.30	- 6.70	...
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	52.40	56.04	- 0.32	7.40
Eastern	176.30	189.80	- 0.30	1.70
Equity Income	79.84	84.93	+ 1.09	6.50
European Gth	230.60	245.20	+ 2.90	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	154.80	165.50	+ 6.00	2.00
Exempt	82.98	85.25	+ 0.84	3.80
German Growth	55.18	58.90	+ 1.17	0.80
Global Growth	109.30	116.60	+ 2.40	...
Japan Growth	167.30	179.50	+11.00	...
Japan Sunrise	140.00	149.60	+ 7.40	...
Portfolio	116.20	124.20†	+ 1.00	3.40
-do- Acc	207.20	221.60†	+ 1.90	3.40
UK Growth	77.12	82.04	+ 1.24	3.10
UK Smaller Cos	77.91	83.32	- 0.76	2.00
Select Managers	63.48	67.98	+ 0.54	2.10

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD
190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balan Gth Acc	103.74	110.95	+ 0.24	2.39
-do- Inc	95.02	101.62	+ 0.22	2.39
Global Bond	30.00	31.83	+ 0.40	5.78
High Yield Acc	51.81	55.41	+ 0.14	4.52
-do- Inc	37.97	40.61	+ 0.10	4.52
Smlr Cos Acc	84.79	90.69	+ 0.98	1.81
-do- Inc	78.42	83.87	+ 0.90	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	61.03	65.28	+ 2.92	...
-do- Inc	59.90	64.06†	+ 2.86	...
Euro Gth Acc	97.34	104.11	+ 1.41	1.78
-do- Inc	96.01	102.68†	+ 1.39	1.78
Mngd P folio	34.82	37.24	+ 0.51	1.54
Pacific Growth	91.11	97.44	+ 1.59	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	87.01	93.06	+ 0.61	1.09

BROWN SHIPLEY
9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Financial	117.20	124.90†	+ 1.20	3.56
Smaller Cos Acc	277.40	296.80	+ 3.30	...
Smaller Cos Inc	162.40	173.80	+ 1.90	1.32
High Inc	71.07	76.40†	- 0.11	7.22
Income	127.00	135.90	+ 0.40	4.27
Mngd P folio Inc	92.75	98.78†	+ 1.63	2.11
-do- Acc	175.30	186.70	+ 3.10	...
North American	110.50	117.60	+ 3.90	0.18

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT
Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fellowship Tst	65.20	69.37	+ 0.44	1.27
-do- Acc	72.69	77.34	+ 0.49	1.27
Income Fund 5	211.20	224.70	- 0.50	4.09
-do- Acc	480.10	510.80	- 1.10	4.09
Inv Portfolio	67.71	70.17	+ 0.52	1.99
-do- Acc	76.46	79.23	+ 0.58	1.99
Smaller Cos	120.50	128.20	+ 0.60	1.97
-do- Acc	144.70	154.00	+ 0.70	1.97
High Inc P folio	58.82	60.95	- 0.42	4.69

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 105, Manchester M60 8AH. 061 837 5060

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Environ	136.30	145.00	+ 1.50	1.66
UK Growth	145.90	155.30†	+ 0.40	2.29
UK Income	124.80	132.80	+ 0.40	4.45

CANNON FUND MANAGERS
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
SE Asia	80.11	85.68	- 1.67	1.07
Growth	44.52	47.62	- 0.32	3.00
Income	52.82	56.49	- 0.22	4.30
Far East	44.11	47.18	- 1.58	0.17
North American	85.79	92.25	+ 3.71	0.01
Global	83.31	89.10†	+ 1.69	0.68
European	69.60	74.46†	+ 0.63	1.26
Japan	95.18	101.80	- 7.12	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	61.36	65.02	+ 0.29	4.93
UK Cap Gwth	78.24	83.68	- 0.30	2.02

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362
Capability Trusts

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gen	138.00	146.80†	- 5.40	0.19
-do- Acc	146.90	156.20	- 5.80	0.19
European	67.36	71.29	- 0.63	1.05
-do- Acc	69.82	73.90	- 0.66	1.05
Far East Gen	53.61	57.04†	+ 3.84	...
-do- Acc	53.61	57.04	+ 3.84	...
Glenfriars	254.20	270.50†	+ 3.90	0.98
-do- Acc	286.10	304.40	+ 4.50	0.98
Growth	375.30	401.40†	- 0.10	2.55
-do- Acc	643.20	688.00	- 0.20	2.55
Income Growth	370.40	394.10†	- 1.00	4.00
-do- Acc	492.50	524.00	- 1.30	4.00
Master Portfolio	9467.0	9792.0	+44.00	2.65
-do- Acc	10905.0	11278.0	+50.00	2.65
Special Sits	86.17	91.68	+ 0.34	2.50
-do- Acc	100.85	107.29	+ 0.41	2.50
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1195.0	1232.0	- 2.00	4.49
-do- Acc	1383.0	1426.0	- 3.00	4.49

CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Index	203.60	216.70†	- 5.10	1.68
Capital	534.50	570.40	+ 0.20	2.50
Eurotrack 100	131.10	139.40†	+ 0.40	1.72
Euro Gth	81.11	86.32	+ 0.41	1.43
Far East Growth	84.48	90.15	+ 3.03	0.15
Global Bond	23.97	25.25	+ 0.17	6.66
Hong Kong	72.91	77.81†	- 4.36	0.62
Income	504.90	538.60	- 1.10	4.66
Intl Growth	74.18	79.16	- 2.32	1.03
Japan Growth	222.10	237.00	-16.50	...
Japan Smllr Cos	27.17	28.99†	+ 1.27	...
Japan Index	65.97	70.40†	+ 4.93	0.29
Nth American	442.30	472.00	+ 9.40	0.07
S pore Mly Gth	49.99	53.35	+ 0.31	...
The Footsie Fd	108.30	114.30	- 0.10	2.75
Tiger Index	137.60	146.80	- 0.70	0.72
UK Index	122.80	131.00	.	3.17

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American P folio	86.44	92.38	+ 1.86	1.00
European P folio	72.85	77.44	+ 0.75	1.38
Japanese P folio	53.86	57.23	+ 3.35	..
Pacific P folio	94.06	101.13	+ 1.23	2.43
Cazenove P folio	69.93	74.80	+ 0.23	3.00
UK Income Gth	62.99	67.49	+ 0.20	5.00

CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Investment Fd	604.15	609.40	...	4.74
Fixed Int	155.70	156.45	...	9.27
Deposit	6.00	...	...	...

CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income	596.47	600.35	...	4.98
-do- Acc	2297.9	2316.6	...	...
Deposit	6.00	...	...	...
Fxd Int Inc	127.15	127.21	...	9.12
-do- Acc	166.55	166.88	...	...

CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
City Fin Assets	62.08	67.20	- 0.55	2.41
Beckman Intl	84.40	89.10	+ 1.53	3.18
Friars Hse Inc	179.76	193.29	+ 5.38	6.41
Friars Hse Cap	252.10	271.08	+ 6.79	2.86

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gth	115.47	122.84	+ 3.96	...
European Gth	96.03	102.16	+ 1.03	1.12
Far East Gth	97.68	103.91	+ 2.23	0.48
Japan Gth Acc	35.01	37.24	+ 1.76	...
Managed	61.85	65.80	+ 0.98	2.94
-do- Acc	74.70	79.47	+ 1.18	2.94
Mthly Inc Plus	47.79	50.84	+ 0.29	8.49
Smaller Cos	34.08	36.25†	+ 2.02	2.15
-do- Acc	38.39	40.84	+ 2.28	2.15
UK General	68.76	73.15	+ 0.43	2.69
-do- Acc	82.43	87.69	- 0.50	2.69
Wwide Bd	65.12	69.28†	+ 0.46	6.30
-do- Acc	83.77	89.12	+ 0.59	6.30
Wwide Sp Sits	55.30	59.04	+ 1.71	0.20
-do- Acc	57.51	61.51	+ 1.79	0.20
Quilter General	122.88	130.72	+ 0.09	2.63
-do- Acc	135.26	143.89	+ 0.11	2.63
Quilter Income	92.05	97.93†	- 0.92	4.58
-do- Acc	113.45	120.69	- 1.14	4.58
Quilter Intl	128.54	136.74	+ 3.90	0.62
-do- Acc	130.32	138.64	+ 3.97	0.62
Quilter UK Spec	70.06	74.53	+ 0.46	2.44
-do- Acc	92.69	98.61	+ 0.61	2.44

EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Oriental Op Acc	77.40	82.34	- 0.73	0.96
Japanese Acc	51.44	54.72	+ 3.73	...
UK Balncd Inc	126.00	134.00	- 1.20	2.50
-do- Acc	147.10	156.50	- 1.40	2.50
UK Growth Acc	207.60	220.90	+ 0.90	2.19
UK High Inc	134.10	142.70	+ 0.20	6.66
-do- Acc	158.40	168.50	+ 0.20	6.66
N America Acc	118.50	126.10	+ 4.30	0.55
European Acc	155.60	165.50	+ 2.00	0.42
UK Pref Fd Inc	60.71	64.41	...	8.77
-do- Acc	97.97	104.10	+ 0.10	8.77

EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	119.00	126.40	+ 4.10	...
UK Smlr Cos	184.30	195.80	+ 1.50	1.28
Eurofund	38.42	40.67	+ 0.38	0.98
Mngd Exempt	167.80	174.90	+ 3.50	3.00
Growth Inc	211.30	224.50†	- 1.40	4.00
High Dist	137.60	146.20	- 1.70	5.92
International	318.80	338.70	+ 4.10	0.96
Intl Income	81.72	87.24	+ 0.13	2.98
Pacific	57.24	60.82	+ 0.21	0.49
Smllr Jap Cos	57.39	60.98	+ 2.49	...
Tokyo	172.20	183.00	+13.10	...
Japan Exempt	95.42	98.04	+ 4.89	0.51
Sm Jap Exempt	474.50	487.50	+15.80	0.10

ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Endurance	171.60	182.50	+ 4.50	1.13

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Pelican	105.80	111.37	+ 0.17	3.42
High Income	119.37	125.65	- 1.41	5.13
Tst of Inv Tsts	141.10	148.53†	+ 0.20	2.26
Special Sits	84.05	88.47	- 0.06	3.16
North American	109.33	115.08	+ 2.89	0.91
Far Eastern	221.38	233.03	+ 5.07	1.56
Intl Growth	91.53	96.35†	- 0.76	1.50
European	64.37	67.76	+ 1.46	2.14
Smaller Cos	70.42	74.13	+ 0.32	2.31

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
America	230.20	244.30	+ 8.60	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	6.00
European Tst	113.60	120.80	+ 3.50	...

FOREIGN & COLONIAL
8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	95.24	100.80	+ 1.67	0.85
Far Eastern	122.90	131.30	+ 4.50	...
Oseas Income	91.46	98.09	- 1.15	2.68
UK Growth	92.05	98.45	+ 0.31	1.32
UK Income	101.60	108.70	- 0.70	3.83
US Smaller Cos	245.30	262.40	-10.60	...

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Am Smllr Co	440.00	470.50	+14.20	...
-do- Acc	449.50	480.60	+14.50	...
Capital	283.50	301.50	+ 1.90	2.17
-do- Acc	391.30	416.20	+ 2.70	2.17
Contl Smllr Cos	47.43	50.49	+ 1.02	1.14
-do- Acc	49.07	52.76	+ 1.06	1.14
Convertible	110.40	117.40	+ 1.60	6.52
-do- Acc	204.40	217.40	+ 3.00	6.52
European	99.33	106.00	+ 1.70	1.23
-do- Acc	102.60	109.50	+ 1.70	1.23
Extra Income	286.00	304.20†	- 0.60	4.41
-do- Acc	400.50	426.00†	- 0.80	4.41
Financial	109.40	117.30	+ 3.00	0.36
-do- Acc	113.90	122.10	+ 3.20	0.36
Health Fund Inc	115.80	123.70	+ 3.00	...
-do- Acc	115.80	123.70	+ 3.00	...
Income Tst	176.10	187.30	+ 0.70	4.10
-do- Acc	245.40	261.00	+ 0.90	4.10
Intl Growth	311.40	334.00	+ 8.50	...
-do- Acc	345.80	370.90	+ 9.50	...
Japan Gen	146.30	156.50	+ 7.30	...
-do- Acc	147.80	158.00	+ 7.30	...
Mngd P folio Inc	90.97	95.75	+ 1.07	1.05
-do- Acc	93.93	98.87	+ 1.10	1.05
Monthly Income	144.90	154.10	+ 0.70	4.54
Recovery	296.00	316.50†	+ 5.20	0.90
-do- Acc	346.70	370.70†	+ 6.10	0.90

FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts. SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Dist	349.82	373.15	+ 1.98	2.94
-do- Acc	706.32	751.40	+ 3.98	2.94
Euro Gth Dist	107.26	114.11†	+ 1.83	0.86
-do- Acc	110.46	117.51†	+ 1.88	0.86
Fixed Int Dist	130.37	137.90†	+ 0.17	6.44
-do- Acc	218.99	231.64†	+ 0.28	6.44
Intl Gth Dist	75.80	80.64	+ 1.93	0.77
-do- Acc	78.41	83.41	+ 1.99	0.77
Nth Amer Dist	176.29	186.77	+ 6.36	0.74
-do- Acc	191.19	202.55	+ 6.91	0.74
Pac Basin Dist	228.24	242.81	+ 4.61	0.32
-do- Acc	231.84	246.64	+ 4.68	0.32
Stewardship Dist	297.40	316.38	+ 1.98	1.95
-do- Acc	351.85	374.31	+ 2.23	1.95
Stwd Inc Dist	61.82	65.77†	+ 0.58	3.86
-do- Acc	75.75	80.58†	+ 0.71	3.86
N Am Stwd Dist	103.46	110.06	+ 3.49	...
-do- Acc	109.43	116.42	+ 3.69	...

GT UNIT MANAGERS
8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 220 4567. Dealing: 071 626 9431

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Am Sp Sits	143.90	153.90	+10.70	...
European	401.00	425.50†	+ 3.80	0.99
Far East General	200.20	214.10	+ 4.40	0.34
Germany	101.90	107.80	+ 2.60	0.42
Global Assets In	66.86	71.44	+ 0.95	2.26
Global Assets Ac	70.05	74.86	+ 0.58	2.23
Income Inc	108.50	116.10†	+ 1.60	7.58
International	254.60	272.30†	+ 4.30	1.02
Intl Income	78.80	83.62	+ 1.59	4.77
Japan General	325.70	345.70	+15.20	...
Smllr Cos Div	45.41	48.57	+ 0.56	6.25
UK Capital Inc	152.10	162.70†	- 1.70	4.10
-do- Acc	260.10	278.20	- 3.00	4.03
UK Spec Sits	69.28	74.10	- 1.38	1.72
US General	118.20	125.90	+ 5.40	0.11
W wide Spec Sits	113.60	121.50	+ 1.70	0.11

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	43.04	46.03†	- 0.33	1.26
Cash Trust*	127.66	127.66†	+ 0.10	5.54
Pract Inv Inc	102.25	109.65	+ 0.25	4.00
-do- Acc	218.29	234.09	+ 0.51	4.00
UK Smaller Cos	96.01	103.60	+ 0.48	1.56
Income Funds				
Preference Share	25.02	26.76	- 0.25	8.26
High Inc	30.80	33.03†	- 0.11	5.48
UK Equity Inc	127.12	135.96†	+ 0.27	4.03
Global Bond	30.70	31.81	+ 0.26	5.41
International Funds				
Gold Intl	65.97	70.75	+ 2.90	1.65
Frontier Markets	41.19	44.17	+ 0.73	0.23
Global Inc Gth	122.63	130.83	+ 1.53	2.39
UK Intl	109.04	116.62	+ 1.32	0.67
Overseas Funds				
American	135.44	144.37	+ 5.74	0.55
European	82.37	87.38†	+ 0.61	0.78
Euro Sel Opps	95.01	101.28†	+ 1.38	1.26

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 0526

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Intl Growth	124.34	132.99	+ 4.61	0.47
American Gth	122.77	131.30	+ 3.34	...
European Gth	69.33	74.15	- 1.00	0.47
German Horizon	48.77	52.01	+ 0.97	0.92
Japan Gth	66.65	71.29	+ 5.53	...
Pacific Inc	131.77	140.93	+ 4.63	3.00
Pacific Strategy	108.51	116.08	+ 2.95	...
UK Prog Inc	74.09	78.17	+ 0.66	4.86
Gt British Cos	48.64	51.26	+ 0.30	2.42
UK Small Cos	43.51	46.53	+ 0.64	2.13

GRE UNIT MANAGERS
36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Cash	130.20	130.20	+ 0.10	4.98
Gilt Fixed	119.70	127.00†	- 0.30	6.62
Growth Equity	283.30	302.60	+ 0.70	2.32
Guardhill	419.80	448.50†	+ 0.10	2.59
Income Trust	108.50	113.70	+ 1.30	3.77
International	155.20	165.80	+ 4.80	0.38
Japan Trust	107.30	114.60	+ 7.10	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	269.00	287.30	+10.90	0.43
Pacific	344.10	367.60	+14.20	3.76
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	345.80	369.40	+ 9.40	0.57

HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global Adv Inc	35.10	37.21†	+ 0.78	1.67
-do- Acc	36.74	38.95	+ 0.81	1.67
Inc Adv Inc	29.59	31.37†	+ 0.46	4.05
-do- Acc	30.76	32.61	+ 0.48	4.05

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Canadian	73.27	78.49	+ 1.07	0.70
Equity Income	111.10	118.20†	+ 0.10	3.62
European	133.50	141.40	- 0.40	1.50
Ind Situation	74.04	78.77	+ 0.68	...
Japanese	118.80	126.50	+ 6.40	...
North American	106.40	112.90	+ 4.30	0.05
Scandinavian	106.30	112.40	+ 3.20	0.12
Smaller Cos	29.51	31.39	- 0.06	2.33

HENDERSON
PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Smaller	93.43	99.74	+ 3.70	...
Asian Enterprise	117.83	127.55	+ 0.81	0.93
Australian	136.69	146.11	+ 4.79	1.52
European	365.89	387.20	+ 4.16	1.13
European Inc	69.31	73.28†	- 0.51	3.41
Euro Smll Co	122.35	130.39	+ 3.52	0.61
Extra Income	253.41	269.77*	+ 0.04	5.40
Family of Funds	68.55	73.19	+ 1.10	1.45
Fixed Interest	55.28	59.11*	+ 0.11	9.69
Global Resour	86.14	92.46†	- 3.25	1.22
High Inc	277.63	296.78*	+ 0.15	4.80
Income Gth	233.11	248.25	- 0.36	4.01
-do- Acc	586.82	624.74	- 0.89	4.01
International	223.36	239.89	+ 3.68	0.87
Japan Spc Sit	198.81	209.39	+13.17	..
Japan	169.32	179.86	+11.30	...
N Amer	237.84	252.62	+ 9.79	0.20
Pacific Smllr Cos	165.51	176.88	- 2.76	0.57
Pref Gth	46.77	50.82*	+ 0.10	9.10
Smaller Cos Div	156.22	170.27†	+ 0.85	4.36
Special Sits	250.17	268.00*	+ 0.33	1.60
-do- Acc	384.87	411.81†	+ 0.51	1.60
Best of British	55.51	59.47	+ 0.23	2.66
Spirit of the East	54.36	58.27	+ 1.15	0.85

HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
British	87.53	93.61	- 0.10	2.32
Capital	155.70	164.30†	+ 1.10	1.97
Dollar	322.10	344.40	+12.90	0.16
European	193.20	206.60	+ 2.10	0.54
Far East	230.50	246.50	+ 2.40	0.62
Financial	647.30	692.20	- 2.80	2.57
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	26.20	27.22	+ 0.02	7.88
High Yield	98.46	105.30	- 0.50	4.95
Income	132.80	142.00	- 0.30	3.49
Intl	211.00	225.60	+ 6.80	0.36
Japan Tech	57.47	61.46	+ 4.13	...
Nat Resources	56.49	60.41	+ 1.02	0.78
Security	290.50	310.60†	- 0.70	2.12
Smaller Cos	103.50	110.60	+ 0.90	1.65

INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS
11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	23.81	25.10†	+ 0.35	1.69
Special Features	26.77	28.44	+ 0.01	1.62
-do- Acc	31.40	33.36	- 0.02	1.62
General Funds				
UK Growth	52.93	56.59	+ 0.24	2.31
Assets Earnings	69.96	74.33†	+ 0.03	2.00
do Acc	82.22	87.35†	+ 0.03	2.01
Managed Invest	83.03	88.70†	+ 1.87	1.34
Rupert Children	75.46	80.46	+ 0.04	1.74
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.20	50.20†	+ 0.03	4.98
Extra Inc	78.43	94.06†	- 0.25	5.49
Gilt	28.04	29.52	...	6.97
Income Gth	37.91	40.52	- 0.23	3.66
MIMstar	77.15	79.09	+ 0.20	8.51
Preference	17.89	19.55†	+ 0.09	6.76
UK Income	305.90	326.90	+ 0.20	3.35
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	54.50	57.90	+ 0.65	1.47
Property Shares	57.24	60.81†	- 0.79	2.28
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	138.50	145.70	- 1.20	4.42
European Acc	111.70	118.40	+ 1.20	2.02
European Dist	106.30	112.70	+ 1.10	2.02
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	51.30	54.56†	+ 1.67	1.02
European Perf	108.60	115.30	+ 1.30	1.31
-do- Acc	110.60	117.30	+ 1.30	1.31
Euro Small Cos	20.87	22.21	+ 0.63	0.80
French Growth	69.14	73.57†	+ 0.45	0.57
-do- Acc	73.69	78.41†	+ 0.48	0.57
Hong K/China	65.57	70.58	- 2.03	1.33
Intl Growth	49.73	52.83	+ 1.19	0.83
-do- Acc	49.73	52.83	+ 1.19	0.83
Japan Perf	27.77	29.48	+ 2.07	...
Accum Units	27.77	29.48	+ 2.07	...
Japan Smllr Cos	29.45	31.29	+ 1.77	...
Singapore Asean	71.30	77.19	+ 0.67	0.58
-do- Acc	71.74	77.67	+ 0.67	0.58
South East Asia	210.80	227.30†	- 1.90	0.97

KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD
10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	68.83	69.17†	+ 0.05	5.43
Extra Income	51.55	54.84†	- 0.02	7.02
Gilt Yield	119.30	125.80†	...	7.96
Global Income	195.30	207.80†	- 1.00	4.12
High Yield	131.40	139.80	- 0.60	6.27
Smllr Cos Div	45.51	48.42†	+ 0.94	4.94
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	94.56	100.60	+ 2.81	...
North American	79.27	84.33	+ 2.01	0.42
European	131.00	139.40	- 1.30	0.90
Euro Special	78.00	82.98	+ 1.42	1.00
General	263.90	280.70	- 2.40	3.39
Japan	336.30	357.80	+19.40	...
Japanese Special	180.10	191.60†	+ 4.80	...
Master Acc	215.60	229.40	- 2.60	1.44
Pacific	248.80	264.70	+ 3.10	0.50

LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	74.10	78.83	+ 1.39	0.51
Extra Income	24.00	25.53	+ 0.13	3.48
Far East	24.12	25.66	- 0.59	0.98
Income Gwth	72.04	76.64†	+ 0.18	3.06
Intl Growth	50.66	53.59	+ 1.37	0.86
Japan	53.67	57.10†	- 2.78	...
Maximum Dist*	100.70	102.70†	+ 0.10	7.36
N Amer Equity	42.34	45.04	- 1.49	0.47
UK Equity	86.16	91.66	- 0.01	3.26

LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT
1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Income Gth Inc	53.12	56.51	+ 0.25	4.71

LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS
5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690398

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Dist	421.20	448.10†	+ 1.40	2.89
Equity Acc	800.60	851.70	+ 2.60	2.89
Equity Income	90.14	95.89	+ 0.97	5.15
European	96.00	102.20*	+ 0.90	1.67
Far Eastern	166.10	175.60	+ 4.60	0.33
Fixed Interest	51.09	54.35†	- 0.37	7.40
Gilt	92.26	97.84	- 0.05	7.00
Global Growth	64.30	68.40	+ 1.80	0.76
Intl Bond	58.11	61.82†	+ 0.43	5.00
Japanese	58.71	62.46	+ 3.60	...
Overseas Equity	93.43	99.39	+ 3.23	0.79
Pacific Gth	70.91	85.01	+ 0.22	1.32

LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	316.50	336.80	+ 0.40	2.93
-do- Acc	685.50	729.30	+ 0.90	2.93
Contl Euro Gth	51.59	54.31	+ 0.45	1.36
-do- Acc	54.56	57.44	+ 0.49	1.36
Extra Inc	238.90	254.20	+ 0.50	4.00
-do- Acc	581.10	618.20	+ 1.30	4.00
German Gth	104.80	110.40	+ 2.90	0.11
-do- Acc	109.90	115.70	+ 2.90	0.11
Growth Port	482.40	513.20	+ 3.80	0.15
-do- Acc	482.40	513.20	+ 3.80	0.15
Income	448.00	476.70	+ 2.10	3.72
-do- Acc	1135.0	1208.0	+ 5.00	3.72
Income Port	486.90	517.00	+ 0.60	3.83
-do- Acc	486.90	517.00	+ 0.60	3.83
Japan Growth	80.38	85.52	+ 4.73	0.01
-do- Acc	80.66	85.81	+ 4.73	0.01
Master Trust	51.71	55.02	+ 0.41	1.49
-do- Acc	56.24	59.84	+ 0.45	1.49
N American Gen	193.10	205.50	+ 5.80	0.01
-do- Acc	223.00	237.30	+ 6.80	0.01
N Am Sm Co Rec	139.10	148.00	+ 2.90	0.01
-do- Acc	141.90	151.00	+ 3.00	0.01
Pacific Basin	195.60	208.10	+ 0.40	0.54
-do- Acc	206.70	219.90	+ 0.40	0.54
Small Cos Rec	291.60	307.00	- 7.20	2.47
-do- Acc	376.10	398.90	- 9.50	2.47
UK Growth	77.55	82.50	- 0.90	2.36
-do- Acc	90.43	96.21	- 1.04	2.36
Worldwide Gth	275.30	292.90	+ 3.80	0.26

Singer & Friedlander

LONDON & MANCHESTER
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
General	77.41	83.06	+ 0.44	3.00
Income	59.29	63.62†	+ 0.25	6.00
International	55.68	59.74	+ 1.84	0.80
American	62.77	67.35	+ 2.88	0.30
Japan	42.92	46.05	+ 3.22	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	54.22	58.18	+ 0.42	2.00

M & G SECURITIES LTD
Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Consumer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gen	409.20	431.90†	+16.90	0.87
-do- Acc	504.90	532.90	-20.80	0.87
American Rec	426.80	451.30	+19.80	0.42
-do- Acc	488.30	516.30	+22.60	0.42
Am Sm Co Acc	123.40	130.90	+ 4.50	0.03
Australia Acc	145.60	153.90	+ 6.50	1.52
Capital	615.30	650.60†	- 0.90	3.40
-do- Acc	678.80	717.90	- 0.90	3.40
Commodity Acc	395.40	418.10	+13.20	1.21
Compnd Gth	796.70	842.50	- 1.40	3.29
Dividend	33.60	36.00	...	4.72
-do- Acc	130.80	140.10	- 0.10	4.72
Equity Inc	280.20	296.30†	+ 2.80	5.49
European Div	57.70	61.40	+ 0.80	4.83
-do- Acc	65.20	69.40	+ 1.00	4.83
European Gen	386.50	408.70	+ 8.10	1.74
-do- Acc	482.90	510.60	+10.20	1.74
Extra Yield	356.30	381.20	- 1.40	4.81
-do- Acc	1023.8	1095.5	- 3.90	4.81
Far Eastern	267.50	284.90†	+ 4.90	1.34
-do- Acc	351.80	374.70	+ 6.30	1.34
Fund of Inv	490.40	518.60	+ 2.00	2.41
-do- Acc	884.80	935.90	+ 3.70	2.41
General	52.20	55.20	+ 0.10	3.88
-do- Acc	137.60	145.40	+ 0.30	3.88
Gilt Fxd Int	62.20	62.20†	+ 0.10	8.23
do Acc	153.50	153.70	+ 0.10	8.23
Gold	38.30	40.50	+ 1.80	1.90
-do- Acc	44.90	47.30	+ 2.10	1.90
High Inc	23.80	25.20	+ 0.20	5.11
-do- Acc	88.20	93.20	+ 0.80	5.11
Intl Growth	67.70	71.60†	+ 2.10	1.12
-do- Acc	116.70	123.40	+ 3.70	1.12
Intl Inc	91.50	96.80	+ 1.50	5.08
Japan Gen Acc	43.30	45.80	+ 2.80	...
Japan Smllr Cos	120.90	127.80	- 3.90	...
Midland	50.40	53.30	+ 0.30	4.38
-do- Acc	159.30	168.60	+ 1.10	4.38
Recovery	34.20	36.60	...	3.42
-do- Acc	53.70	57.60	+ 0.10	3.42
Second Gen	58.90	62.30	+ 0.50	3.89
-do- Acc	144.10	152.40	+ 1.40	3.89

MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
PO Box 410, Chester X, CH99 9QC. 0244 688066

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Port Inc	133.30	142.60†	+ 1.10	2.40
-do- Acc	148.10	158.30†	+ 1.20	2.40
UK Income	109.30	116.00†	- 0.40	3.00
-do- Acc	121.90	130.40†	- 0.40	3.00

MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Emerg Mkts	76.71	82.04†	+ 1.05	0.61
Far East (Pacific)	127.10	134.90	+ 5.10	0.75
Income Growth	70.01	74.32†	- 0.31	3.61
European	66.64	70.74†	+ 1.04	1.95
Nth American	59.61	63.29	+ 1.97	1.15
UK Growth	76.66	81.37	+ 0.65	1.45
Intl Growth	89.53	95.04	+ 2.85	0.72
Charities	106.80	113.30†	+ 0.90	4.35
Intl Income	66.21	70.28†	+ 2.15	4.20
Japan	42.99	45.63†	+ 2.52	...

MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD
33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2860

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	196.80	208.60	+ 7.90	...
-do- Acc	210.30	223.00	+ 8.50	...
Cash	100.70	100.70	...	5.84
-do- Acc	128.20	128.20	+ 0.10	5.84
European Gth	195.50	207.30	+ 3.40	0.34
-do- Acc	209.30	222.00	+ 3.90	0.34
General	454.20	484.60†	+ 2.90	2.68
-do- Acc	864.30	921.90†	+ 5.30	2.68
Global Dist	136.70	143.70	+ 0.60	5.42
-do- Acc	149.80	157.50	+ 0.80	5.42
Income	135.60	144.60†	+ 0.60	5.03
-do- Acc	198.40	211.60†	+ 0.80	5.03
International	379.40	409.60	+12.90	0.92
-do- Acc	503.20	535.20	+17.00	0.92
Japan	154.10	163.40	+ 4.80	...
-do- Acc	158.20	167.80	+ 5.00	...
New Europe	133.90	142.90†	+ 1.50	1.40
-do- Acc	136.10	145.20†	+ 1.50	1.40
Recovery	286.10	305.20	+ 3.80	2.30
-do- Acc	357.40	381.30	+ 4.70	2.30
European Inc	75.00	79.44	+ 1.52	2.95
-do- Acc	95.14	100.70	+ 1.86	2.95
Brit Blue Chip	71.86	76.51	+ 0.19	3.60
-do- Acc	84.14	89.58	+ 0.23	3.60
Portfolio	74.02	78.69	+ 0.61	3.04
-do- Acc	82.94	88.17	+ 0.68	3.04
Gold General	67.81	72.34	+ 3.96	3.35
-do- Acc	68.74	73.33	+ 4.02	3.35
Pacific	85.56	91.26	+ 0.21	0.54
-do- Acc	90.44	96.47	+ 0.22	0.54

MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD
192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 520 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 076

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced Dist	57.41	61.40	+ 0.41	3.35
-do- Acc	57.41	61.40	+ 0.41	3.35
British Dist	75.90	81.18†	+ 0.37	2.30
-do- Acc	85.87	91.84	+ 0.42	2.30
European Gth	168.30	179.80	+ 2.10	0.21
-do- Acc	211.20	225.70	+ 2.60	0.21
Extra High Inc	68.17	72.91	+ 0.01	6.50
-do- Acc	118.50	126.70	...	6.50
FT-SE 100 Index	48.22	51.57	+ 0.15	3.21
-do- Acc	48.22	51.57	+ 0.15	3.21
Gilt Fixed Int	56.40	58.72†	+ 0.03	7.15
-do- Acc	148.40	154.50	+ 0.10	7.13
High Yield	214.00	228.90	- 0.20	5.13
-do- Acc	491.20	525.40	- 0.30	5.13
Income	271.00	289.80†	- 0.70	3.93
-do- Acc	563.30	602.50	- 1.50	3.93
Japan Gth	284.90	304.70†	+15.40	...
-do- Acc	300.70	321.60	+16.10	...
Mandarin Acc	93.87	100.40	+ 0.30	1.25

MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD
20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gth	270.10	287.50	+15.00	0.43
Deposit Inc	99.96	99.96†	- 0.22	5.35
Deposit Acc	121.51	121.51†	+ 0.08	5.35
Euro Gth Acc	260.20	278.10†	+ 7.00	...
Europa	119.70	128.50†	+ 3.80	...
Ind Gth	164.60	175.70	+ 5.30	...
Japan Tracker	64.00	67.81	+ 4.75	...
UK Equity Inc	144.30	153.30	+ 1.90	5.06
-do- Acc	173.80	187.00	+ 2.30	5.06
UK Ind Tracker	141.40	151.40†	+ 1.00	3.49
US Eq Ind Trkr	201.80	214.00†	+ 6.50	1.22
-do- Acc	213.40	226.40†	+ 6.90	1.22
Asian Trader	144.40	156.80	- 0.60	1.00

MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT
7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Inc	180.20	184.10†	+ 7.70	2.50
European	60.45	61.78	+ 0.79	1.22
Olympiad	53.57	55.02†	+ 1.45	0.57
Global Bond	48.57	49.10†	+ 0.31	6.90
Smaller Cos	60.53	63.07	+ 0.69	1.77
Equity Income	91.74	94.33†	+ 0.29	4.99
UK Growth	82.55	84.81	+ 0.62	1.83

NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
The [illegible] Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387730

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Acc	50.18	53.52	+ 2.09	0.69
Australian Acc	298.70	320.40	+ 9.20	...
Conscience	63.73	68.01	+ 0.97	1.46
-do- Acc	68.43	73.03	+ 1.04	1.46
European	170.00	181.30	+ 2.00	1.21
-do- Acc	181.30	193.30	+ 2.00	1.21
Extra Income	71.29	76.08	+ 0.29	6.22
-do- Acc	107.50	114.70	+ 0.40	6.22
Far East Gth	148.50	158.70	+ 1.10	0.12
Gilt Fxd Inc	58.17	61.57	+ 0.02	7.49
Gold	29.76	32.00	+ 0.53	...
-do- Acc	32.05	34.46	+ 0.57	...
Income	51.32	54.74	+ 0.27	5.48
-do- Acc	153.90	164.10	+ 0.80	5.48
International	29.10	31.22	+ 0.74	0.93
-do- Acc	41.81	44.86	+ 1.08	0.93
Jap Sm Cos Acc	257.30	274.40	-10.90	...
S pore Mly Acc	155.20	166.40	...	...
Smllr Cos Acc	23.82	25.61	+ 0.15	1.59

N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
N&P UK Growth	67.13	71.42	+ 0.13	2.94
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	73.15	77.41†	+ 0.19	7.07
N&P Higher Inc	177.60	188.50	- 4.90	5.14
N&P UK Income	98.49	105.34	+ 0.08	4.12
N&P Intl	84.45	90.81	+ 0.16	1.98
N&P Smaller Cos	71.61	76.59	+ 0.86	1.77

NEWTON FUND MANAGERS
2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
General	160.74	171.01	+ 1.60	2.54
Global	276.20	293.84	+ 4.43	1.29
Growth	104.01	110.65	+ 0.87	2.50
Income	198.07	210.72	+ 0.90	4.60
Intl Bond	130.55	138.88	+ 2.41	8.30

PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD
PO Box 500, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Growth	137.80	143.00	+ 0.70	2.77
-do- Acc	238.60	251.10	- 1.30	2.77
Income	215.70	229.40	+ 0.50	3.81
Intl Equity	214.60	228.30	+ 6.10	1.11
-do- Acc	234.50	249.90	+ 6.60	1.11
Equity	214.70	228.40	+ 0.80	2.65
-do- Acc	435.20	463.00	+ 1.50	2.65
UK Intl 25 Acc	67.76	72.08	+ 0.67	2.11
UK Income	58.68	62.42	+ 0.17	3.37
UK Smllr Co Acc	68.56	72.93	- 0.77	1.73
New Europe Acc	61.99	65.94	+ 0.65	1.55

PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST
48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames. 0491 417000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Asian Smllr Mkt	84.52	90.40	- 0.30	0.31
PEP Gth Inc	96.66	103.38	+ 1.86	1.98
Intl Gth	454.84	486.46	+ 9.18	0.86
Income	284.38	304.15	- 0.07	4.13
W wide Recov	281.78	301.37	+ 4.76	1.01
American Gth	205.96	220.28	+ 7.32	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	173.60	185.99	+ 3.99	0.15
Far East Gth	187.73	200.79	+11.00	0.21
European Gth	112.07	119.87	+ 2.28	1.16
UK Growth	72.53	77.58	+ 0.38	3.13
High Income	78.49	83.95	+ 0.27	5.13
Japanese Gth	172.60	184.03	+12.50	0.01

PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
International	170.90	181.80	+ 4.40	0.91
High Income	106.90	113.70	- 0.80	3.77
Conv Gilt	109.60	116.60†	+ 0.50	6.75
Far East	287.50	305.80	+ 7.80	0.34

PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT
1 Sessions Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XL. 0622 674751

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	51.28	54.55	+ 1.36	0.54
Emerging Mkts	62.23	66.20	+ 0.82	0.22
General	47.80	50.53	+ 0.10	3.39
International	83.19	88.50	+ 1.36	1.20
Gilt Units	26.58	27.40†	+ 0.04	8.01
Global PEP	35.28	37.53	+ 0.32	2.08
Income Gth	62.14	66.11†	- 0.30	5.32
European	42.97	45.73†	+ 0.34	1.16
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.59	27.22†	- 0.06	6.12

PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD
51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricebank 0426 925091

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Pru Mngd Tst**	29.78	31.85†	+ 0.56	1.61
Pru Csh Rvn Inc	101.17	101.17†	+ 0.08	5.49
-do- Acc	104.23	104.23†	+ 0.08	5.49
Pru Equity	658.43	704.20	+ 3.65	2.41
Pru Equity Inc	79.22	84.72*	...	4.48
Pru European	173.76	185.83	+ 2.49	1.81
Pru Global Gth	77.57	82.96†	- 1.53	1.55
Pru High Inc	85.21	91.13†	- 1.07	5.65
Pru Intl	154.43	165.16	+ 3.96	1.31
Pru Intl Sm Co	65.77	70.34	+ 2.10	0.92
Pru Japanese	158.57	169.99†	+15.53	...
Pru Nth Amer	148.77	159.11	+ 6.76	0.44
Pru Pacific Mkt	70.76	75.67†	- 0.92	1.86
Pru Presnr Inc	49.85	51.91	- 0.04	7.37
Pru Smllr Cos	80.33	85.91	+ 0.21	2.01
Pru Spec Sits	97.75	104.54	+ 0.45	2.22
Pru UK Growth	108.84	116.40†	+ 0.44	2.33

** Formerly Holborn Trust

ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/4

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
NC Income	153.39	164.83	- 0.15	3.66
NC Japan	227.16	243.48	+13.47	...
NC Maj UK Cos	93.36	100.35	+ 0.55	2.51
NC America Inc	493.47	529.08	+22.74	0.54
-do- Acc	573.16	614.53	+26.42	0.54
NC Smlr UK Cos	250.82	273.43†	+ 1.97	1.85
NC European	252.48	289.81	+ 6.32	1.50

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP
16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Amer Inc Gth	75.00	79.78	+ 2.52	3.81
Capital Units	141.40	150.40	+ 1.50	1.48
Commodity	97.20	103.40†	+ 3.55	1.29
European Gth	151.50	161.10	+ 2.10	1.44
Financial Sec	167.70	178.40	+ 2.30	1.59
High Return	208.10	221.30	+ 0.30	4.91
High Yield	204.80	217.80	- 0.20	4.59
Income Units	107.50	114.30†	...	5.13
Investment	168.40	179.10	+ 1.20	1.54
Japan Gth	121.10	128.80	+ 9.50	...
Japan Smaller	156.70	166.70	+ 4.20	...
Masterfund	44.85	47.71	+ 0.87	1.00
Scotbits	244.10	259.60	+ 3.10	2.13
Scotshares	248.90	264.70	+ 3.00	2.72
Scotyields	219.00	232.90†	- 0.70	3.99
Select Intl	127.80	135.90	+ 3.70	0.68
Smaller Cos	214.30	227.90	+ 4.90	5.49
Special Situation	106.90	113.70	+ 0.20	0.79
UK Equity	220.20	234.20†	+ 0.30	3.05
US Growth	146.00	155.30†	+ 5.90	0.29

SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD
33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client Sce: 0800 526 535. Broker Sce: 0800 526 540

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	246.91	263.57	+ 6.34	0.68
-do- Acc	266.75	284.53	+ 6.85	0.68
Australian	136.51	145.61†	+ 6.13	1.37
-do- Acc	160.49	171.18	+ 7.74	1.37
UK Enterprise	203.40	216.95†	+ 0.74	2.77
-do- Acc	234.96	250.62	+ 0.86	2.77
European Gth	60.98	65.04†	+ 0.06	1.34
-do- Acc	63.12	67.33	+ 0.06	1.34
Euro Smllr Cos	56.52	60.28†	+ 1.30	0.68
-do- Acc	56.90	60.69	+ 1.31	0.68
Far Eastern Gth	64.88	69.20†	+ 1.48	...
-do- Acc	66.02	70.41	+ 1.51	...
Fixed Interest	52.30	55.16†	+ 0.01	8.60
-do- Acc	64.27	67.77	...	8.60
Gilt Income	102.79	108.32†	- 0.11	8.45
-do- Acc	143.65	151.38†	- 0.15	8.45
Income	294.15	313.76†	- 2.31	4.57
-do- Acc	867.80	925.67	- 6.80	4.57
Japan Enterprise	54.88	58.53	+ 3.86	...
-do- Acc	54.88	58.53	+ 3.86	...
Japan Smllr Cos	345.30	368.31†	+15.83	...
-do- Acc	345.99	369.04	+15.86	...
Pacific Gth	82.29	87.77†	- 0.13	0.55
-do- Acc	84.86	90.51	- 0.13	0.55
Smaller Cos	180.61	192.65†	- 1.24	1.30
-do- Acc	206.99	220.79	- 1.41	1.30
Tokyo	87.30	93.12†	+ 6.19	0.01
-do- Acc	88.18	94.06	+ 6.25	0.01
UK Equity	201.18	214.59†	- 0.81	3.09
-do- Acc	372.56	397.40	- 1.50	3.09
US Smllr Cos	133.47	142.36	+ 4.95	...
-do- Acc	133.47	142.36	+ 4.95	...
World Fd	68.10	72.64†	+ 0.43	1.72
-do- Acc	71.87	76.65	+ 0.45	1.72

SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Income	42.79	45.58	+ 0.25	4.38
Equity Strategy	62.37	66.42	+ 0.78	1.80
European Opps	72.47	77.18	+ 1.06	1.22
Maximum Inc	97.99	100.57	+ 0.14	5.64
UK Smaller Cos	47.95	51.07	+ 0.16	3.21

SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS
19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	341.10	364.50	+ 1.50	2.93
American	259.30	275.30	+10.40	0.88
Pacific	298.20	318.90	+ 9.00	0.80
European	455.30	487.00	+ 9.20	1.21
Worldwide	77.36	82.74	+ 1.29	1.34

SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	303.20	322.60	+ 1.80	2.83
UK Sm Cos Eqty	192.00	204.30	+ 0.40	2.66
European	327.80	348.80	+ 3.30	1.78
North American	261.10	277.80	+ 9.30	0.59
Income Plus Inc	63.60	67.67†	- 0.19	3.93
UK Spec Sits	65.41	69.59†	+ 0.88	2.52

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD
6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Gth Acc	25.14	26.91	+ 0.13	3.05
Intl Growth Acc	27.87	29.83	+ 0.71	1.12
Global Inc Acc	31.07	33.26	+ 0.90	2.94
Market Ldrs Acc	25.78	27.59†	+ 0.15	3.08

SG TOUCHE REMNANT
Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gth	86.05	92.03†	+ 3.15	...
Euro Spec Sits	43.77	46.69	+ 0.91	...
-do- Acc	46.35	49.44	+ 0.96	...
Far East Opps	30.10	32.45	+ 0.06	...
-do- Acc	30.93	33.34	+ 0.06	...
General Growth	98.31	105.30	- 0.70	2.36
Global Tech	121.00	130.60	+ 4.90	...
Income Growth	98.84	106.20	+ 0.50	3.89
Income Monthly	56.76	60.70	+ 0.60	5.19
Japan Growth	69.05	73.44	+ 3.89	...
Overseas Gth	74.77	79.65	+ 2.59	...
Smaller Cos	69.81	75.06	- 0.69	1.88
Special Opps	97.67	105.00†	- 0.20	1.99

STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	43.81	46.55	- 0.87	1.77
Equity Gth Acc	59.03	62.72	+ 1.29	1.19
UK Eq General	42.60	45.27	+ 0.73	2.28
-do- Acc	55.90	59.40	+ 0.96	2.28
European Acc	41.61	44.22	+ 0.38	1.27
Far East Acc	49.98	53.11	+ 2.03	0.55
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	30.91	32.69	+ 0.09	6.48
N American Acc	46.01	48.89	+ 1.24	0.69
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	266.10	288.80	+ 9.80	1.67
UK Eq High Inc	35.05	37.25	+ 0.59	3.83
-do- Acc	41.05	43.62	+ 0.68	3.83
UK Lgr Cos Inc	293.10	318.10	+ 5.10	3.76
UK Lgr Cos Acc	377.00	409.10	+ 6.50	3.76

STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Global A	N283.41	N283.62	+ 0.08	1.11
US Eq	$2.066	$2.194	+ 0.05	0.71
Far East Eq	Y202.4	Y215.0	+12.10	...
Japan Eq	Y199.1	Y211.5	+ 5.30	...
FT Europe	114.50	121.60	+ 1.40	1.67
FT North Am	$1.744	$1.848	+ 0.02	0.99
FT Japan	Y202.5	Y215.0	-13.00	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	120.80	128.20	+ 2.30	1.41

STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	366.40	388.10	+14.10	0.29
British	918.90	972.20†	+ 6.40	4.64
European	385.60	410.40	+13.90	1.57
Japan	125.10	133.20	+ 6.20	...
New Pacific	288.90	307.70	- 3.50	1.35
Mngd Cash	96.13	96.13	+ 0.06	5.39
Majority Stg	100.33	101.34	+ 0.08	5.27
Inv Tst	179.50	190.30†	- 0.20	2.01
Saints PPP	366.00	385.30	...	...

SUN ALLIANCE
Admin, 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Acc	720.80	770.90	+ 1.80	2.30
N America Acc	116.90	125.00	+ 4.30	0.10
Far East Acc	112.00	119.80	+ 3.30	...
W wide Bond	63.85	67.61	+ 0.26	5.18
European	82.56	88.30	- 1.48	0.55
Equity Income	80.36	85.95	- 0.47	3.76

SUN LIFE OF CANADA
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Gth	35.78	38.27	+ 1.11	0.81
Managed Assets	117.21	125.36	+ 1.30	3.80
UK Income	36.15	38.67	- 0.01	3.27
UK Growth	35.88	38.38	+ 0.16	2.92
Worldwide Gth	30.08	32.18	+ 1.13	0.55

TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants. SP10 1RE. 0264 346794

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American	210.62	224.06	+ 6.52	0.17
-do- Acc	231.33	246.10	+ 7.17	0.17
British Gth	85.06	90.49	+ 0.84	2.05
-do- Acc	99.26	105.60	+ 0.98	2.05
European	93.53	99.50†	+ 2.44	1.13
-do- Acc	98.66	104.95†	+ 2.57	1.13
Extra Inc	179.74	191.21†	- 1.96	4.32
-do- Acc	286.69	304.99†	- 3.12	4.32
General Unit	257.72	274.17	- 0.24	2.64
-do- Acc	508.54	541.00	- 0.47	2.64
Income	317.65	337.93	+ 4.38	3.84
-do- Acc	647.01	688.31	+ 8.92	3.84
International	483.06	513.89	+10.06	0.66
-do- Acc	631.44	671.74	+13.15	0.66
Pacific	313.39	333.39	+ 1.26	0.09
-do- Acc	328.21	349.16	+ 1.33	0.09
Premier Income	50.95	53.07	- 0.08	7.15
-do- Acc	104.64	109.00	- 0.06	7.15

TARGET TRUST MANAGERS
Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
American Eagle	131.80	140.70	+ 7.10	0.22
Australia	7.433	7.940†	+ 0.29	1.01
Equity	181.40	194.10	- 0.60	4.40
Euro Spec Sits	143.50	152.40	+ 3.30	0.57
Financial	39.49	42.20	+ 0.90	2.88
Global Opps Inc	88.67	94.67	+ 2.07	2.13
-do- Acc	91.91	98.12	+ 2.14	2.13
Gold Gen Inc	42.66	45.75	+ 1.85	0.96
-do- Acc	81.39	87.36	+ 3.59	0.96
Income	117.40	125.60†	+ 0.50	4.92
Japan General	131.20	139.60	+ 9.10	...

THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD
33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European Oppd	62.65	66.75	+ 0.50	0.44
-do- Acc	63.28	67.45	+ 0.52	0.44
Far East Opps	137.38	146.53	+ 0.70	0.66
-do- Acc	140.59	149.96	+ 0.74	0.66

UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS
Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
United Charities	216.40	230.80	+12.40	4.46

WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Australasian Gold	11.88	12.65	+ 0.23	0.50
Pacific Basin	20.36	22.29	+ 0.23	0.60
Canadian Gth	37.47	39.86	+ 0.40	0.10
Global Bond	$0.956	$0.996	- 0.01	7.19
Penny Share	21.02	22.36	+ 0.15	1.80

WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
City Reserve	52.32	52.32	+ 0.04	5.83
Gilt Growth	66.46	69.18	+ 0.30	...
Gilt Income	53.25	55.41	+ 0.12	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	110.50	112.00	+ 0.40	3.57
US Govmnt Bd	$0.711	$0.720	0.00	...
Challenger	95.32	97.54	+ 1.25	...

WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 081 298 4000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Stockmarket Fd	66.39	70.62	- 0.28	2.15

Source: Finstat
* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	4,000	Coats Viyella	927	Legal & Gn	1,700	Scot & New	614
Alld-Lyons	2,100	Cm Union	713	Lloyds Bk	1,700	Scot Power	1,000
Anglian W	1,000	Courtaulds	741	MB Cardn	137	Sears	2,900
Argyll Gp	1,900	De La Rue	320	Marks Spr	4,200	Svrn Trent	1,400
Arjo Wiggn	7,400	Eng China C	779	NFC	1,600	Shell Trans	4,400
AB Foods	702	Enterpr Oil	1,100	NatWst Bk	4,600	Siebe	2,300
BAA	487	Fisons	5,700	Nat Power	1,400	SmKl Bch	6,500
BAT Inds	2,100	Forte	3,300	Nth Wst W	278	Smith Nph	3,800
BOC	674	GRE	2,400	Nthrn Fds	1,000	Smith (WH)	1,600
BP	7,100	GUS A	265	P & O	769	Sthrn Elec	515
BT	5,400	Gen Acc	665	Pearson	776	Std Chartd	1,500
BTR	8,500	Gen Elec	7,800	PowerGen	2,000	Sun Allnce	1,100
Bk of Scot	2,400	Glaxo	6,800	Prudential	1,800	TI Gp	4,400
Barclays	5,900	Granada	1,000	RTZ	3,800	TSB	1,900
Bass	1,500	Grand Met	2,800	Rank Org	1,000	Tate & Lyle	629
Blue Circle	4,000	Guinness	3,600	Reckitt Col	1,000	Tesco	5,800
Boots	1,600	HSBC	10,000	Redland	1,100	Thames W	576
Bowater	647	Hanson	9,100	Reed Intl	1,600	Thm EMI	643
Brit Airways	3,000	ICI	4,300	Rentokil	889	Tomkins	2,700
Brit Gas	6,000	Inchcape	1,900	Reuters	778	Unilever	1,700
Brit Steel	17,000	Kingfisher	309	Rothmans	383	Utd Bisc	1,900
Burmah Cas	313	Kwik Save	168	Ryl Ins	405	Vodafone	3,300
Cable Wire	3,800	LASMO	1,500	Ryl Bk Scot	2,700	Wellcome	1,000
Cadbury	1,800	Ladbroke	3,300	Sainsbury	2,400	Whitbd 'A'	1,000
Carlton Cm	653	Land Secs	907	Scot Hydro	640	Wllms Hld	3,000

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 3419.17 (-37.83)
S&P Composite 449.15 (-4.57)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge 18037.52 (+132.73)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 6170.40 (-201.44)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency 104.5 (-1.3)

Sydney: AO 1661.5 (+0.4)

Frankfurt:
DAX 1707.14 (-10.26)

FT 30 share: 2263.0 (-26.5)

Brussels:
General 6187.26 (-22.19)

Paris: CAC 525.51 (-2.48)

Zurich: SKA Gen 486.3 (-6.1)

London:
FT A All-Share 1421.34 (-15.91)
FT 500 1560.85 (-16.29)
FT Gold Mines 97.6 (+1.8)
FT Fixed Interest 113.46 (-0.27)
FT Govt Secs 97.69 (-0.10)
Bargains 46356
SEAQ Volume 769.3m
USM (Datastrm) 132.14 (-0.26)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 8	March 19	June 17	June 28

12/3/93 Calls: Alvis, Amstrad, ASDA, Brit Data, Compass, Enterprise Comp, Gresham Tel, Hartstone, Kwik-Fit, LIT, Microvitec, Nurdin & Pea, Peek, ProudSec, Pretoria, Queens Mt, Ransomes, Tadpole, Taunton Cdr, TR Prop. Puts: Amstrad, Anglo Pac, Spring Ram. Puts & Calls: Aran, Hanson Wt, Lex, Lloyds Chem, Medeva, Queens Mt.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 (Previous open interest: 51671)	Mar 93	2942.0	2945.0	2902.0	2920.0	13055
	Jun 93	2958.0	2960.5	2921.0	2937.0	2729
Three Month Sterling (Previous open interest: 291421)	Mar 93	94.08	94.17	94.08	94.11	6705
	Jun 93	94.48	94.54	94.48	94.52	12384
	Sep 93	94.71	94.73	94.68	94.72	5769
Three Mth Eurodollar (Previous open interest: 24122)	Mar 93	96.76	96.76	96.75	96.75	372
	Jun 93	96.59	96.60	96.58	96.59	396
Three Mth Euro DM (Previous open interest: 524012)	Mar 93	92.08	92.12	92.08	92.10	8396
	Jun 93	93.11	93.16	93.08	93.10	26738
US Treasury Bond (Previous open interest: 318)	Mar 93				111-19	0
	Jun 93				110-10	0
Long Gilt (Previous open interest: 83638)	Mar 93	105-16	106-00	105-16	106-00	725
	Jun 93	106-18	107-02	106-06	106-29	42731
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 93	110.60	110.65	110.50	110.53	730
	Sep 93					0
German Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 133823)	Jun 93	96.52	96.60	95.95	96.11	107319
	Sep 93	96.70	96.73	96.70	96.28	11
Three month ECU (Previous open interest: 16995)	Mar 93	90.95	90.95	90.86	90.86	866
	Jun 93	91.92	91.95	91.84	91.85	1451
Euro Swiss Franc (Previous open interest: 51296)	Mar 93	94.90	94.95	94.88	94.94	1669
	Jun 93	95.66	95.72	95.60	95.61	6313
Italian Govmt Bond (Previous open interest: 47803)	Jun 93	96.66	96.86	96.50	96.70	7305
	Sep 93				96.53	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 77.3 (day's range 77.0-77.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 12	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6719-2.6840	2.6806-2.6840	¾-⅝ds	1-1⅞ds
Brussels	48.92-49.18	49.08-49.18	6-12ds	19-32ds
Copenhagen	9.1260-9.1780	9.1560-9.1780	3-4ds	9-3ds
Dublin	0.9805-0.9840	0.9811-0.9833	40-49ds	120-138ds
Frankfurt	2.3766-2.3871	2.3839-2.3871	⅜-⅝ds	1⅛-1¼ds
Lisbon	220.15-221.45	220.75-221.20	155-166ds	446-480ds
Madrid	169.81-170.57	170.15-170.57	143-175ds	374-421ds
Milan	2288.00-2307.50	2298.70-2307.50	9-12ds	29-32ds
Montreal	1.7755-1.7846	1.7825-1.7846	0.16-0.05pr	0.27-0.09pr
New York	1.4300-1.4350	1.4340-1.4350	0.35-0.33pr	0.97-0.94pr
Oslo	10.1240-10.1640	10.1420-10.1640	1-3⅞ds	5⅛-7⅞ds
Paris	8.0770-8.1160	8.0770-8.0910	3⅛-4ds	10⅛-11¼ds
Stockholm	11.0570-11.1290	11.1060-11.1290	3-4ds	9-11⅞ds
Tokyo	168.49-169.02	168.82-169.02	½-¾pr	1¼-1pr
Vienna	16.71-16.80	16.75-16.80	2⅛-3⅞ds	6-8⅞ds
Zurich	2.1731-2.1867	2.1835-2.1865	¼pr-¼ds	⅝-⅜pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4310-1.4335
Australia dollar	2.0212-2.0240
Bahrain dinar	0.533-0.545
Brazil cruzeiro*	31472.8-31473.1
Cyprus pound	0.705-0.715
Finland marka	8.6045-8.7205
Greece drachma	316.75-323.75
Hong Kong dollar	11.0765-11.0857
India rupee	44.62-45.58
Kuwait dinar KD	0.435-0.445
Malaysia ringgit	3.7282-3.7322
Mexico peso	4.40-4.50
New Zealand dollar	2.7113-2.7162
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.297-5.423
Singapore dollar	2.3572-2.3603
S Africa rand (fin)	6.5774-6.6025
S Africa rand (com)	4.5705-4.5767
U A E dirham	5.188-5.312

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4114-1.4124
Austria	11.691-11.696
Belgium (Com)	34.22-34.23
Canada	1.2416-1.2421
Denmark	6.3890-6.3920
France	5.6495-5.6515
Germany	1.6610-1.6620
Hong Kong	7.7350-7.7360
Ireland	1.4610-1.4620
Italy	1607.7-1608.5
Japan	117.73-117.78
Malaysia	2.6035-2.6045
Netherlands	1.8677-1.8682
Norway	7.0635-7.0685
Portugal	153.64-153.74
Singapore	1.6455-1.6465
Spain	118.70-118.90
Sweden	7.7692-7.7742
Switzerland	1.5165-1.5175

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 · Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6⅛ Low 5⅞ Week fixed: 6
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¾ ; 3 mth 5⅝ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅞ ; 3 mth: 5¾ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis)	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	
Sterling Money Rates: Interbank	6⅛-6	6-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞
	6⅛-6	6-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞
Overnight: open 5⅞, close 5					
Local Authority Deps	5⅞	n/a	5⅞	5⅞	5⅞
Sterling CDs	6⅛-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞
Dollar CDs	3.12	n/a	3.13	3.24	3.49
Building Society CDs	6⅛-6	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞

TREASURY BILLS: Applics: £269m allotted: £100m; Bids: £98.66 % received: 58%; Last week: £98.66 % received: 70%; Avge rate: £5.3657 % last wk £5.3717 %; Next week: £100m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark	8⅛-8⅞	8⅛-8⅞	8⅛-8⅞	8⅛-8⅞	8⅛-7⅞
French Franc	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	4⅞-4⅞	11⅞-10⅞
Swiss Franc	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	5⅞-5⅞	4⅞-4⅞	5⅞-4⅞
Yen	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $326.80-327.40 Close: $327.20-327.70 High: $327.20-327.70 Low: $325.95-326.45 Krugerrand: $326.00-328.00 (£226.50-228.00)
Sovereigns: Old $78.00-81.00 (£52.00-54.00) New $78.00-81.00 (£52.00-54.00)
Platinum: $351.25 (£245.65) Silver: $3.64 (£2.535) Palladium: $106.65 (£74.60)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyons	550	28	41	50	10	29	37
(*562½)	600	7	20	29	41	62	67
ASDA	67	5	11	13½	3½	6½	9
(*70½)	75	2½	6½	9½	8½	12	13
Bass	550	40	55	69	7	20	26
(*575½)	600	11	29	42	29	45	51
Boots	500	24	36	45	11	27	32
(*502½)	550	4	15	24	45	57	63
Br Airways	280	22	30	35	6	18	23
(*294)	300	10	20	26	15	26	33
BP	260	25	32	37	3	10	14
(*279½)	280	11	20	26	9½	18	23
	300	4	12	18	23	30	35
Br Steel	80	9½	14	16½	2½	6½	8
(*88½)	90	4	9	11½	6½	11	13½
C & W	700	30	50	65	15	37	46
(*710½)	750	9	29	42	46	70	77
CU	580	35	55	60	6½	19	29
(*606)	629	10	29	37	32	43	55
Courtaulds	600	21	38	52	18	39	47
(*595)	650	5	20	31	55	70	77
GKN	460	16	32	38	14	26	35
(*472)	500	4	16	21	43	50	60
Grand Met	460	24	41	49	10	22	27
(*471½)	500	6	20	31	34	44	49
ICI	1200	59	100	115	24	50	75
(*1210)	1250	30	72	89	44	76	103
	1300	14	50	68	79	107	132
Kingfisher	535	28	41	52	12	29	37
(*545)	584	7	21	31	43	59	67
Ladbroke	200	5½	16	23	15	23	29
(*197½)	220	2½	10	15	32	37	42
Land Sec	450	43	48	50	2	12	16
(*495½)	500	13	21	29	12	33	36
M & S	330	29	36	42	3½	10	14
(*354½)	360	9	18	26	14	26	29
Sainsbury	500	37	49	57	5	18	24
(*524)	550	10	22	32	30	45	49
Shell	550	26	52	58	4	13	20
(*576½)	600	7	23	30	26	36	45
Smkl Bch	460	25	40	50	13	26	35
(*469)	500	7	23	34	37	49	55
Storehse	180	18	27	31	4½	12	15
(*191½)	200	7	16	21	14	24	27
Trafalgar	74	8½	12½	16	3	6	8½
(*78½)	82	3½	8½	11	7½	10½	13
Unilever	1200	55	80	105	15	35	46
(*1244)	1250	21	53	77	39	63	73
Utd Bisc	360	24	31	39	10	18	22
(*377½)	390	6½	17	25	29	35	39

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
BAA	750	65	75	90	10	22	30
(*795)	800	32	46	59	25	43	52
BAT Ind	950	26	52	64	47	54	73
(*946)	1000	15	32	45	79	87	105
BTR	600	19	32	39	22	30	38
(*611)	650	5½	13	21	60	62	70
Br Aero	260	36	49	60	18	29	36
(*275)	280	27	40	50	28	40	47
Br Telcm	420	22	30	35	12	23	27
(*426)	460	6	12	18	37	48	51
Cadbury	500	15	27	41	26	32	39
(*495½)	550	4½	13	23	64	-	71
Guinness	460	27	38	48	20	27	35
(*468½)	500	8	21	31	47	50	57
GEC	300	9½	16	21	13	24	29
(*293½)	330	3	5	10	40	47	50
Hanson	240	15	19	23	6½	10½	15
(*244½)	260	6	10	14	17	22	26
LASMO	180	15	22	27	16	22	29
(*179½)	200	7	15	20	30	34	40
Lucas	140	15	18	21	11	15	22
(*144)	160	5	11	12	24	28	35
P & O	550	35	45	55	27	39	54
(*566)	600	13	25	33	62	70	87
Pilkngtn	100	11	13	18	8½	13	15
(*106½)	110	8	9	13	15	19	21
Prudential	330	14	23	28	13	24	30
(*332)	360	5	12	16	40	44	49
RTZ	650	35	53	67	24	36	47
(*668)	700	13	30	44	57	64	77
Scot New	460	22	32	36	18	30	36
(*461½)	500	6½	15	22	45	56	61
Tesco	240	20	24	30	8	13	17
(*252½)	260	9	15	21	19	23	27
Thames W	500	51	55	59	5	15	19
(*538½)	550	16	24	31	23	39	44
Vodafone	390	33	42	52	14	22	28
(*407½)	420	16	27	37	28	37	44

FT-SE INDEX (*2914)

	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050
Calls						
Mar	117	72	32	11	3	1½
Apr	138	100	66	43	24	13
May	175	121	88	66	46	32
Jun	176	152	112	90	70	55
Dec	270	-	220	-	170	-
Puts						
Mar	4	10	23	54	92	122
Apr	20	35	55	78	115	118
May	38	55	66	-	101	135
Jun	48	70	88	113	133	143
Dec	90	-	150	-	205	-

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	360	13	28	37	4	15	22
(*379)	390	2	13	23	24	32	38
Amstrad	35	2	5½	7	2	4	5
(*35½)	40	[illegible]	3	4½	5½	[illegible]	8
Barclays	390	18	33	43	5	18	25
(*413½)	420	4	19	28	23	33	44
Blue Circ	220	6	15	23	9	22	29
(*213½)	240	2	8	15	27	38	42
Br Gas	280	27	31	34	1½	7	10
(*303½)	300	9½	16	21	4	15	18
	330	1½	5	9½	26	36	39
Dixons	220	19	31	34	3	11	16
(*235½)	240	6	20	26	9	19	29
Eurotnl	460	35	58	75	10	29	42
(*474)	500	9	37	55	30	50	63
Forte	200	10	16	20	4½	17	22
(*204)	220	2½	7	13	18	31	35
Glaxo	650	26	60	82	10	35	45
(*663½)	700	6	35	56	44	63	76
	750	1½	20	38	92	99	107
HSBC	600	23	42	58	15	44	56
(*603½)	650	5½	22	33	50	75	84
Hillsdown	140	15	19	21	1½	8	9½
(*153½)	160	4½	9	13	6½	20	21
Lonrho	80	5	11	14	2	7½	10½
(*83)	90	1	7	9½	9½	13	17
Reuter	1400	21	82	120	30	70	90
(*1415)	1450	11	62	97	65	95	118
R-Royce	130	5	10	15½	5	12	15½
(*129)	140	2	7	11	13	19	22
Sears	90	9	12	14	1	4	7
(*97)	100	2½	6	8½	1½	9½	13
Thm Emi	850	15	43	53	14	33	55
(*852½)	900	3	22	31	52	64	88
TSB	160	13	22	25	2	7	12
(*172)	180	3	12	15	11	15	22
Vaal Reefs	35	5½	8	8½	1½	2	4
(*39)	40	2½	4½	5½	3	4½	6
Wellcome	900	33	75	102	9	33	55
(*929½)	950	13	47	76	34	62	80

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Fisons	300	20	29	37	7½	20	25
(*210)	220	9½	20	29	19	32	37

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
Eastn Elc	460	36	45	51	11	22	28
(*479)	500	14	24	31	30	44	49

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Natl Pwr	330	12	24	30	5	14	22
(*335)	360	2	12	17	24	31	39
Scot Pwr	240	11	21	24	2	8	15
(*247½)	260	2	10	14	14	18	23

March 12, 1993 Tot: 35537 Calls 15066 Puts 20471 FT-SE Calls 4974 Puts 12206
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: Sugar rallied following the publication of yet another downward revision to the Thai sugar crop to 3.51m tonnes from 3.86m tonnes last week. Cocoa bounced from it's oversold condition, but gains were slightly muted by the USDA's latest forecast of global production in 1992/93 season, which effectively included an upward revision to the Ivory Coast's main crop.

LONDON FOX

COCOA
Mar 678-675 May 755-764
May 660-639 Jul [illegible]
Jul 707 BID Sep 794-793
Sep 713-712 Dec 822-816
Dec 733-732
Mar 751-752 Volume 5139

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)
Mar 966-960 Nov 901-900
May 911-908 Jan 913-910
Jul 885-887 Mar 927-920
Sep 892-890 Volume 1155

RAW SUGAR (FOB)
C Czarnikow: Dec 234.0-[illegible]
Spot 215.6 Mar [illegible]
May 234.0-32.0 May [illegible]
Aug 240.0-38.0 Aug unq
Oct 219.0-16.0 Volume 132

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)
Reuters: Dec 261.2-56.0
Spot unq Mar 267.2-56.5
May 279.4-79.2 May 263.0-57.6
Aug 262.4-61.0 Aug 267.5-53.6
Oct 261.9-61.0 Volume 440

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 12

(p/kg lw)	Pigs	Sheep	Cattle
GB	79.96	115.17	137.41
(+/-)	+1.79	-8.56	+1.66
Eng/Wales	79.94	114.99	139.93
(+/-)	+1.79	-6.55	+0.30
(%)	-5.6	-37.3	-23.2
Scotland	n/a	115.69	139.66
(+/-)	n/a	-6.47	+4.43
(%)	n/a	-43.5	+5.6

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (£kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Apr	115.0	115.2	Jun	112.5	112.5
May	115.0	115.0	Volume 12		

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)
Mar 142.75
May 144.25
Jun 145.75
Sep 109.15
Nov 111.40
Volume 140

BARLEY (close £/t)
Mar 143.00
May 139.65
Sep 106.90
Nov 110.15
Jan 112.70
Volume 42

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)
Apr 150.00
Jun 142.30
Aug 143.80
Oct 147.00
Dec unq
Volume 20

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	39.0	39.1
May	41.5	41.3
Apr	92.0	92.5

Volume 113

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/kt)
Apr 64.25-63.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): A rash of pre-weekend short covering pushed levels higher.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.85	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Mar)	19.00	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.80	+0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.30	+0.30
W Texas Intermediate (May)	20.45	+0.25

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	196 (n/c)	199 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	176 (+2)	177 (+2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	176 (+2)	177 (+2)
Non EEC 1H May	175 (n/a)	176 (n/a)
3.5 Fuel Oil	75 (n/c)	77 (n/c)
Naphtha	172 (+2)	174 (+3)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL
Apr 173.00-73.25 Jul 172.75-73.00
May 172.50-72.75 Aug 174.75-75.00
Jun 172.25-72.50 Sep 176.75-77.00
Vol: 10416

BRENT (6.00pm)
Apr 18.78-18.79 Jul 18.81-18.82
May 18.80-18.81 Aug 18.82 BID
Jun 18.82 BID Vol: 43666

UNLEADED GASOLINE
Apr 197.50-99.00 Jul 207.50 SLR
May 199.50-01.00 Aug 210.00 SLR
Jun 200.00 BID Vol: 159

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

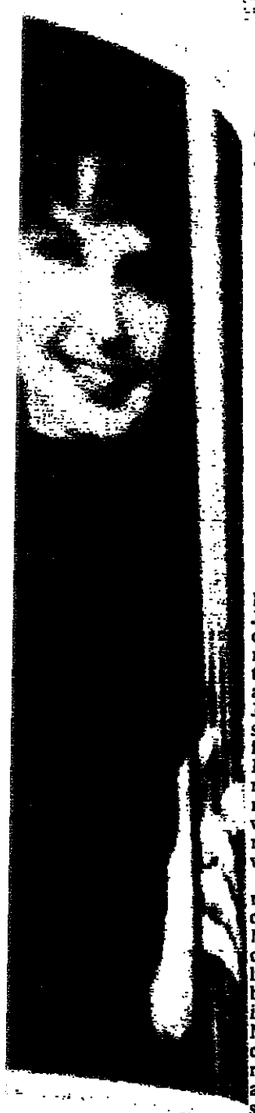
	High	Low	Close
Mar 93	1450	1445	1440
Apr 93	1445	1435	1435
May 93	1409	1400	1395
Jul 93	1255	1241	1245

Vol: 377 lots. Open int'st: 2775. Index 1428 +19

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
(Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1525.0-1525.5	1549.5-1550.0	841125
Lead (£/tonne)	281.50-282.00	291.50-292.00	122425
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1010.5-1011.0	1029.0-1030.0	192725
Tin ($/tonne)	5655.0-5660.0	5715.0-5720.0	7695
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1154.5-1155.0	1176.0-1176.5	930500
Nickel ($/tonne)	5975.0-5980.0	6035.0-6040.0	51810

هكذا من الأصل



McKoy the biggest hurdle for Jackson

FROM DAVID POWELL: ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT IN TORONTO

MALCOLM Arnold, Colin Jackson's coach, put his hands out in front of him, about a metre apart, and said: "That's the distance between the first and tenth ranked athletes." Jackson is No. 1, unbeaten since the 110 metres hurdles final at the Olympic Games in Barcelona last year, but Arnold is not presuming, as many are, that his charge will win the world indoor 60 metres hurdles title here this weekend. *It is too close to call.*

Jackson has run nearly 20 races, indoors and out, since competing so poorly in Spain. Mark McKoy, the Olympic champion and Jackson's likeliest challenger here, has been beaten six times by the Briton *in his run of success.* But McKoy, one of Toronto's own, closed the gap to 0.02sec in a race in Karlsruhe last weekend and, with a faster start and *superior flat speed, threatens* to deny Jackson his first global title since he won the world junior 110 metres hurdles seven years ago.

In the absence of *Linford* Christie, Jackson knows his responsibility. "Now Linford is not here, people [in Britain] are looking to me," Jackson, the Commonwealth and European outdoor champion, said. If McKoy wins tomorrow, he will not stop in town to celebrate. On Monday, he is moving to Austria to live because Europe, and not North America, is where the money in athletics is to be made.

After the Olympic Games in Seoul, McKoy was suspended from the Canadian team for two years, having admitted at the Dubin enquiry that he took steroids. *The enquiry* was set up to investigate drug abuse in Canadian sport and a subsequent report recommended strong action from the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) and International Olympic Committee (IOC).

From his office backing on to the athletes' hotel here, Robert Armstrong, counsel for the enquiry, said yesterday that neither the IOC nor the IAAF was doing enough. "The IOC appears to have lost *interest in the fight against* doping in sport," he said.

The IAAF is spending only 1.1 per cent of its 1992-1995 budget on its anti-doping programme, *less than double* spent by Canada on monitoring its own athletes. Since the Dubin enquiry, Canada has thrown money at the problem. The IAAF, Armstrong said, should spend more.

Since these championships are the closest thing yet to a convention of athletes tarnished by drugs convictions, the IAAF could point its fingers around the SkyDome here and argue that it has an effective anti-doping programme.

Competing here are McKoy, Butch Reynolds and *at least half a dozen others* who have served suspensions and, for reminders of Ben Johnson, his girlfriend, Sabine Troeger, is in the Austrian team and Angie Coon, the wife of Charlie Francis, Johnson's coach in Seoul, runs for Canada.

Just to help the thing along yesterday, there was news that the women's 60 metres world record holder, Lyudmila Narozhilenko, had returned a positive A sample.

On the first day of the championships yesterday, Tom McKean's bid for a *medal in the 800 metres* began encouragingly. McKean, with a reputation second to none for botching global championships, led his heat from start to finish. His fellow Scot, Yvonne Murray, the only British woman in the hunt for gold, was spared heats in the 3,000 metres; the final is today.

Russian athlete fails test

ATHLETICS has been dragged into another drugs controversy in Toronto, Ben Johnson's home town. Lyudmila Narozhilenko, 28, holder of the world indoor record and world champion for 60 metres hurdles, was named yesterday as having returned a positive A sample in a drugs test (David Powell writes).

Narozhilenko, a Russian, was supposed to have appeared here for the three-day world indoor championships, which began yesterday, and had been entered to defend her title. But her name has been removed from the start-list for her event and a source close to the International Amateur Athletic Federation said that she had returned a positive A sample and that her B sample was being studied. There is no precedent for a B sample failing to match the A sample.

Irish invaders emerge from the mist



Grace and grandeur: three of O'Toole's horses are put through their paces during a canter on the plains of The Curragh. Photograph: Mark Maxwell



Simon Barnes investigates the Irish approach to racing with the trainer, *Mick O'Toole, as he prepares for the* annual pilgrimage to Cheltenham

The English have always had the strangest, most ambivalent relationship with the Irish. We envy them, we eulogize them: in one way or another, we have been at war with them for 700 years. Our attitude has all the lack of logic that the patronising English call quintessentially Irish.

The Cheltenham National Hunt Festival has always been England's Grand Annual Feast of Paddywackery. Up for the crack, bejasus, hordes of wild intrepid punters with *tips from the fairies coming* over from Ireland to drink like heroes and to wager their souls on some uncannily swift dark horse from the bogs.

The envying English go to Cheltenham and try to set aside the cares of Englishness in a three-day splurge of drink and betting. The Irish can celebrate a funeral: we English have lost the knack, if we ever had it, of celebrating anything. *With all our hearts,* we envy the crack.

I went to seek the legend of the Irish Way with horses on the great open grasses of The *Curragh, to spend a couple of* days — a pair of grand, soft mornings — with Mick O'Toole, racehorse trainer, former greyhound trainer, wheeler-dealer, shrewdie, terrifying punter, master of the coup, trainer of a Cheltenham winner in eight successive years, winner of the Gold Cup with Davy Lad and a personification of the legend of Irish racing.

The horses thundered by and the rain fell in gentle clouds. O'Toole, effortless winner of the all-Curragh filthiest flat cap competition, was entertaining a visiting owner.

"Grand morning," said Brigadier-General James Beary, owner of the *smart* mare, Gamara. "Grand life."

"It is," O'Toole said. The words yes and no, absent in Gaelic, are not often used in *Hiberno-English.* "If you could make ends meet, you'd do it for nothing."

I have spent many a morning out on the Newmarket *mornings, hard mornings* electric with tension and fear. They seemed a million miles away. Rivalry, secrecy and neuroses fill the Newmarket air, but on a soft morning on The Curragh, the people and horses seem united against a *conspiracy against the dull*ards of the world.

O'Toole is part of the legendary tradition of the Irish and their horses. In *dress and style, he seems* like one of the legendary characters that keep horses at the top of Dublin tower blocks and take them down in the lift for exercise: "Well, he can't manage the bloody stairs."

O'Toole could make tea at Claridges seem *slightly dis*reputable and agreeably sloppy. "Walk around the yard. Whatever you like. It's not bloody England, you know."

Indeed it is not. At one English yard, I received shocked gasps when I patted a horse or two: "I don't think you should do that," with a *nervous look over the shoul*der in case the governor reappeared. But in Ireland, I patted plenty of horses and spoke to plenty of lads.

"Nice horse, very nice horse," Eamonn Lloyd was saying. This was Diplomatic, O'Toole's only Cheltenham horse, who goes in the Festival *Bumper on Thursday.* "Could be a nice each-way bet, especially with the ground coming up firm now."

Gone are the days of the annual winner: "It was a good time. We thought the thing would never end." The Brigadier-General was being introduced to various unsold two-year-olds, as O'Toole talked them up. Another trainer — there are about 40 of them around The Curragh — strolled by and watched and joined in the talking. Most English trainers would sooner sell their daughter into *white slavery than introduce* a good owner to another trainer.

A nice looking beast, by Seattle Slew. "Lovely horse," said O'Toole. "Lovely horse," said the Brigadier-General. The visiting trainer, a man with the singularly unIrish name of Homer Scott, summed up: "Lovely, lovely horse."

For all the myths and *legends, Irish racing has been* going through a quiet period.



O'Toole: legendary

"It's been a very lean time, especially the last 18 months," O'Toole said, "but there's a light at the end of the tunnel. I've been getting quite a few enquiries all week."

There have been plenty of decent Irish-bred horses. The problem is that the best of these have been sold to England. "There were simply better customers in *England.*"

And it is money that makes the racing world go round. O'Toole is renowned for his way with the big gamble and people still talk about a coup he worked with Barney Curley in 1975, commandeering the only telephone in Bellewstown to do it. But he is appalled at the slackness of the younger generation.

The Brigadier-General had, so far, restrained himself from whipping out the cheque-book. As another horse was fetched out for him, he took me to one side and said: "And coming over the second last, Mill House was still ahead..." But I knew who was going to come through at the end of the story and beat the greatest racehorse in England. Who but Arkle?

"I think there is a *great* chance for another world-beater from Ireland," O'Toole said. "There are a few very *good horses around in Ire*land, owned by the right people. People have refused huge offers from everywhere. The horses are just not for sale. Owners like that are a scarce commodity. One thing about the Irish — if you've got a good horse, you have the best customer in the world."

We watched more potential Arkles trotted up for us. "You get so many horses with so *much promise and so many* bloody well disappoint you." A sigh. "That's what the game is all about."

England invented the English language and is famous for its horses: odd, then, that the Irish seem closer to both. The best book in the English language was written by an Irishman and it contains a full account of the Ascot Gold Cup. Indeed, the book's central concern is the victory of an outsider. O'Toole's outsider is not Ulysses but Diplomatic and let us be diplomatic, and say, well, it has a fair chance.

Irish racing has gone through a quiet time, but the Irish will be back. "There's a horse that could be anything," O'Toole declared magnificently, as the next two-year-old emerged from his box.

"Lord, you've peace on earth here, Mick," said the Brigadier-General.

"That," said the visiting *trainer,* "is a lovely, lovely, lovely horse."

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

0 unless stated

Premier League

Coventry v Arsenal
Everton v Notts Forest
Leeds v Manchester City
Middlesbrough v Liverpool
Norwich v Oldham
QPR v Wimbledon
Southampton v Ipswich

Barclays League

First division

Birmingham v Bristol City
Bristol Rovers v Wolverhampton
Cambridge Utd v Portsmouth
Charlton v Brentford (all ticket)
Grimsby v Luton
Millwall v Derby
Notts County v West Ham
Oxford Utd v Southend
Sunderland v Peterborough
Swindon v Newcastle (all ticket)
Tranmere v Leicester
Watford v Barnsley

Second division

Blackpool v Reading
Bournemouth v Stoke
Burnley v Hull
Exeter v Hartlepool
Fulham v Bradford
Mansfield v Huddersfield
Port Vale v Bolton
Rotherham v Plymouth
Stockport v Brighton
Swansea v Chester
West Bromwich v Leyton Orient

Third division

Barnet v York
Bury v Darlington
Chesterfield v Hereford
Doncaster v Scunthorpe
Gillingham v Carlisle
Scarborough v Walsall
Torquay v Halifax
Wrexham v Lincoln

GM Vauxhall Conference

Bromsgrove v Bath
Dagenham and Redbridge v Kidderminster
Macclesfield v Altrincham
Merthyr v Northwich
Stafford v Woking
Yeovil v Stalybridge

Scottish League

Premier division

Aberdeen v Falkirk
Dundee v Airdrie
Hearts v Dundee Utd
Motherwell v Celtic P
Partick v St Johnstone
Rangers v Hibernian

First division

Ayr v Clydebank
Cowdenbeath v Stirling
Dumbarton v St Mirren
Hamilton v Dunfermline
Morton v Meadowbank
Raith v Kilmarnock

Second division

Albion v Berwick
Alloa v Montrose
Brechin v Stranraer
East Stirling v Forfar
Queen's Park v East Fife
Stenhousemuir v Queen of South

Vauxhall FA Trophy

Fourth round

Boston v Runcorn
Sutton Utd v Warrington
Witton v Famborough
Wycombe v Gateshead

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Basingstoke v Aylesbury; Bognor v Chesham; Carshalton v Kingstonian; Dulwich v Wivenhoe; Enfield v Hayes; Maidow v Grays; St Albans v Harrow; Staines v Yeading; Stevenage Borough v Hendon; Windsor and Eton v Bromley. First division: Abingdon Town v Basingo; Aveley v Molesey; Bishop Stortford v Tooting and Mitcham; Boreham Wood v Lewes; Chalfont St Peter v Billericay; Dorking v Wembley; Heybridge Swifts v Purfleet; Hitchin v Maidenhead; Uxbridge v Leyton; Walton and Hersham v Croydon. Second division: Barton v Worthing; Chertsey v Witham; Egham v Hungerford; Hemel Hempstead v Hampton; Leatherhead v Metropolitan Police; Newbury v Ruislip Manor; Saffron Walden v Banstead Athletic; Southall v Berkhamsted; Tilbury v Edgware; Ware v Horsfield. Third division: Bracknell v Aldershot Town; Camberley v Kingsbury; Clapton v Collier Row; Hertford v East Thurrock; Hornchurch v Petersfield; Leighton v Cove; Northwood v Feltham and Hounslow; Royston v Horsham; Tring v Thame.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Goole; Barrow v Chorley; Bishop Auckland v Southport; Colwyn Bay v Buxton; Droylsden v Frickley; Fleetwood v Whitley Bay; Gainsborough v Winsford; Horwich v Morecambe Lusty v Marine; Matlock v Hyde. First division: Bridlington Town v Congleton; Curzon Ashton v Great Harwood; Farsley Celtic v Radcliffe Borough; Gretna v Eastwood Town; Harrogate v Workington; Knowsley v Alfreton; Lancaster City v Netherfield; Rossendale v Worksop; Shepshed Albion v Caernarfon.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Trowbridge; Bashley v Dover; Burton v Cambridge City; Chelmsford v Helsetown; Cowley Town v Weymouth; Dorchester v Hastings; Hednesford v Chelmsham; Moor Green v Corby; VS Rugby v Gloucester; Waterlooville v Worcester. Midland division: Bent v Rushden and Diamonds; Bilston v Stourbridge; Forest Green v Dudley; Gresley Rovers v RC Warwick; King's Lynn v Evesham; Leicester United v Hinckley; Newport AFC v Bridgnorth; Redditch v Sutton Coldfield; Tamworth v Bedworth; Weston-super-Mare v Grantham; Yate v Nuneaton Borough. Southern division: Ashford v Witney; Baldock v Fisher Athletic; Braintree v Andover; Buckingham v Havant; Erith and Belvedere v Wealdstone; Fareham v Sudbury; Margate v Gravesend and Northfleet; Newport, IOW v Burnham; Poole v Canterbury City; Salisbury v Dunstable; Sittingbourne v Bury Town

BASS IRISH CUP: Quarter-final: Ards v Distillery; Cliftonville v Larne; Dundela v Glentoran; Linfield v Bangor.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Bohemians v Derry City (2.15).

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Porthmadog; Afan Lido v Bangor; Caersws v Bilton Ferry; Ebbw Vale v Conwy; Flint Town Utd v Haverfordwest; Inter Cardiff v Holywell (2.30); Maesteg Park Ueandicas; Mold v Llanelli; Newtown v Cwmbran.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Semi-final, first leg: Rhyl v Connah's Quay (2.30).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v OPR (2.0); Portsmouth v Southampton (2.0).

ABACUS LEAGUE: First division: Bleanhondda v Brecon; Caldicot v Port Talbot; Cardiff Civil Service v Aberaman; Ferndale v Ammanford. Cyril Rogers Cup: Third round replays: Bridgend v Cardiff Corries; Llanwern v Pontmeadbar; Goytre v Ton Pentre; Pembroke v Caerwerlan.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton LR v Salford City; Bradford Park Avenue v Blackpool Mechanics; Chadderton v Blackpool Rovers; Darwen v Mossa Road (Mem); Eastwood Hanley v Bamber Bridge; Kidsgrove Athletic v Clitheroe; Newcastle Town v Skelmersdale; Penrith v Bacup Borough; St Helens v Flixton. Challenge Cup: Semi-finals: Glossop North End v Nantwich; Prescot v Burscough.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm v Frome; Clevedon v Torquay United; Liskeard Athletic v Tiverton; Minehead v Bridgwater; Paulton v Elmore; Plymouth Argyle v Chard; Saltash v Westbury; Torrington v Chippenham.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Brightlingsea v Wisbech; Chatteris v Harwich and Parkeston; Comard v Norwich United; Gorleston v Brantham Athletic; Halstead v Stowmarket; Haverhill v Felixstowe; Histon v Great Yarmouth; March Town v Diss; Tiptree v Lowestoft; Watton v Newmarket; Wroxham v Felixstowe.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper v Maltby MW; Denaby v Blackbridge PS; Liversedge v Brigg; Ossett Albion v Thackley; Ossett Town v Spendymoor; Pickering v Glasshoughton Wel; Pontefract Col v Harrogate Ra; Sheffield v North Ferriby; Winterton Rangers v Armthorpe Welfare.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia v Ferryhill Athletic; Blyth Spartans v Tow Law; Consett v Hebburn; Easington Colliery v Newcastle Blue Star; Guisborough v Northallerton; Murton v Chester Le Street; Seaham Red Star v Durham City; South Bank v Peterlee Newtown; Whitby v Brandon

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Cambridge United v OPR; Charlton v Gillingham; Fulham v Millwall; Ipswich v Leyton Orient; Norwich v Watford; Portsmouth v Chelsea; Tottenham v Arsenal; West Ham v Southend. Second division: Bournemouth v Wimbledon; Brentford v Brighton; Bristol City v Luton; Colchester v Bristol Rovers; Southampton v Reading; Tottenham v Crystal Palace.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Crouch End Vampires v South Bank Poly; Carshalton v Old Actonians; Old Esthamians v Civil Service; Old Bromleans v Old Parkonians; Lensbury v Alexandra Park; Old Salesians v Barclays Bank; Kew Association v Winchmore Hill; Ibis v Broomfield; Old Stationers v Southgate Olympic; Lloyds Bank v Polytechnic; Reigate Priory v Alleyn Old Boys; Old Parmaterians v Brantham; East Barnet OG v Bank of England; Old Westminster Cits v Merton; Old Latymerians v Cuaco; Old Lyonians v Royal Bank Scotland. AFA Senior Cup: NatWest Bank v Old Meadonians; Old Hamptonians v Norsemen.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Lensing Old Boys v Old Reptonians. Old Malvernians v Old Cholmeleians; Old Wellingburians v Old Carthusians. First division: Old Ardinians v Old Westminsters; Old Brentwoods v Old Salopians; Old Wykehamists v Old Wilderians.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chertsey v Wilsonians; Enfield v Cardinal Manning; Aloysians v Danes; Ignatians v Glyn; Tamsonians v Tiffinians.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Old Beatonians v Old Pauloplans; Old Grammarians v Old Owens; Parkfield v Mill Hill Village; Southgate County v Old Finchleians; Wilsn v Nottsborough.

SCHOOLS MATCH: Victory Shield International (under-15): England v Scotland (at Wembley)

RUGBY UNION

3.0 unless stated

Courage Clubs Championship

First division

Bath v Wasps
Bristol v Leicester
London Irish v West Hartlepool
Northampton v Gloucester
Orrell v Rugby (2.30)
Saracens v London Scottish

Second division

Blackheath v Bedford
Coventry v Fylde
Morley v Richmond
Newcastle Gosforth v Rosslyn Park
Nottingham v Moseley
Waterloo v Sale

Third division

Askeans v Sheffield
Exeter v Leeds
Liverpool St Helens v Aspatria
Plymouth v Havant
Redruth v Broughton Park

Fourth division north

Durham v Walsall
Harrogate v Towcestrians
Kendal v Stourbridge
Lichfield v Preston Grasshoppers
Nuneaton v Winnington Park
Stoke v Hereford

Fourth division south

Basingstoke v Sudbury
Berry Hill v Maidstone
Camborne v Thurrock
High Wycombe v Met Police
Lydney v Southend
Weston-super-Mare v North Walsham

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Barking v Ealing; Old Colfeians v Guildford and Godalming; Old Gaytonians v Old Alleynian; Old Mid-Whigtifians v Dorking; Sidcup v Tabard; Sutton and Epsom v Eton Manor.

SOUTH WEST: First division: Brixham v Maidenhead; Cheltenham v St Ives; Cinderford v Newbury; Gordon League v Reading; Henley v Torquay; Sherborne v Penryn.

NORTH: First division: Hull Ionians v Bradford and Bingley; Lymm v Vale of Lune; Middlesbrough v Wharfedale; Stockton v Northern; Tynedale v Sandal; Wigton v Widnes.

MIDLANDS: First division: Barkers Butts v Bedworth, Birmingham Solihull v Westleigh; Camp Hill v Syston, Derby v Newark; Leighton Buzzard v Mansfield, Pavlors v Leamington, Wolverhampton v Vipers.

McEwan's Scottish League

First division

Boroughmuir v Dundee HSFP
Currie v Watsonians
Gala v Melrose
Glasgow High v Hawick
Heriots FP v Kelso
Jed-Forest v Edinburgh Academicals
Selkirk v Stirling County

Second division

Ayr v Clarkston
Kirkcaldy v Dunfermline
Peebles v Glasgow Academicals
Preston Lodge v Edinburgh Wanderers
Stewarts Mel FP v Musselburgh
West of Scotland v Grangemouth
Wigtownshire v Kilmarnock

THIRD DIVISION: Haddington v St Boswells; Howe of Fife v Corstorphine; Dumfries v Perthshire; Gordonians v Langholm; Royal High v Morgan Academy FP; Biggar v Portobello FP; Hutchesons Aloysians v Hillhead Jordanhill.

FOURTH DIVISION: Cambuslang v Leith Academicals; Dalziel HSFP v Lismore; Edinburgh University v East Kilbride; Highland v Livingston; Linlithgow v Aberdeen GS FP; Stewartry v Atlas; Trinity Academicals v Carina Queens Park.

Heineken Welsh League

First division

All 2.30

Bridgend v Swansea
Llanelli v Newbridge
Neath v Cardiff
Pontypool v Aberavon
Pontypridd v Newport
South Wales Police v Maesteg

Second division

Cross Keys v Narberth
Dunvant v Penarth
Ebbw Vale v Llandovery
Glamorgan Wanderers v Abertillery
Tenby United v Llanharan
Tredegar v Blaina

THIRD DIVISION: Aberavon Quins v Rumney; Abertymon v Wrexham; Blackwood v Tumble; Bonymaen v Pontypool United; St Peters v Mountain Ash; Treorchy v Kenfig Hill.

FOURTH DIVISION: Cardiff Quins v Colwyn Bay; Cardigan v Tondu; Carmarthen v Kidwelly; Ruthin v Builth Wells; Vendre v Cilfynydd; Ystradgynlais v Gamdiffath.

Representative match

Royal Navy v The Army (at Twickenham)

Club matches

London Welsh v Cambridge University (2.45)
Otley v Rotherham (2.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Semi-final

Leeds v Widnes (at Wigan RFC, 2.15)

OPENCAST NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Dudley Hill v Dewsbury Celtic; Woolston v Wigan St Patricks. Second division: Barrow Island v Shaw Cross; East Leeds v Oulton; Redhill v Mayfield. Lock Lane v Greetland Ar.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Slough v Old Loughtonians (Wexham School, 2.0). Second division: Doncaster v Lyons (Dudell Park, Scunthorpe, 2.0); Harborne v Cambridge City (Birmingham University, 12.30).

PERONI SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division A: Anchorians v Basingahia. Premier division B: Fareham v Purley

PIZZA EXPRESS LONDON LEAGUE: Hampstead and Westminster v Wimbledon; Richmond v Reading; St Albans v Southgate; Surbiton v Hounslow; Teddington v Old Kingstonians.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Hemel Hempstead Royals v Worthing Bears, Leicester Riders v Derby Bucks; Oldham Celtics v Birmingham Bullets, Thames Valley Tigers v Guildford Kings. Second division: Barnsley Generals v Cardiff Bury Lobos v Crystal Palace; Coventry Flyers v Middlesbrough Mohawks, Lewisham Lightning v Ware Rebels; Plymouth Raiders v Brixton Topcats. Third division: Sedgefield Racers v Sheffield Forgers; South London Elephants v Guildford; Stevenage Phoenix v Swindon Sonics. Women: First division: Chesham v Milton Keynes Q Cats; Leicester v Ipswich, Northampton v Sheffield Hatters, Thames Valley v London YMCA. Second division: Camberley Golden Eagle v Stonebridge Amazons, South Tyneside v Brixton Lady Topcats, Sunderland v Doncaster Frog Press.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff Devils v Durham Wasps; Norwich and Peterborough Pirates v Murrayfield Racers; Nottingham Panthers v Humberside Seahawks; Whitley Warriors v Billingham Bombers. First division: Lee Valley Lions v Medway Bears; Romford Raiders v Milton Keynes Kings; Sheffield Steelers v Telford Tigers.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND KNOCK-OUT CUP (at Crystal Palace): Age-group Finals: Under-16: Girls: Portbrook Portsmouth v Manchester United Salford (2.0) Boys: Camden v Mayfield Portsmouth.

TENNIS

VAUXHALL INDOOR TROPHY: National quarter-finals: Men: Puma Sunderland v Ilkley; Edgbaston Priory v Riverside Chiswick; Surrey Country Club v Puma Welwyn; Match Point Southampton v Royal Berkshire

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Coca-Cola Cup

Semi-final, second leg

First leg score in brackets

Sheffield Wednesday (4) v Blackburn (2) (all ticket, 3.0)

Premier League

Manchester Utd v Aston Villa (all ticket, 1.0)

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division (all 3.30). Bray Wanderers v Shamrock Rovers; Cork City v Shelbourne; Drogheda Utd v Sligo Rovers; Limerick v Dundalk; St Patrick's Athletic v Waterford.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: King's Lynn v Newport AFC. Southern division: Buckingham v Erith and Belvedere.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Workington v Bridlington Town.

WOMEN'S FA: First division north: Abbeydale Ampthurch v Milton Keynes; Cowgate Kestrels v Sunderland; Sheffield Wednesday v Leasowe Pacific; St Helens v Nottingham Argyle; Wolverhampton v Vale Aztecs. First division south: Brighton and Hove v Saltdean; District Line v Epsom and Ewell; Hemel Hempstead v Town and County; Horsham v Hassocks Beacon; Oxford Utd v Bristol Blackwell. Premier division: Arsenal v Red Star Southampton; Bromle v Ipswich Town; Knowsley United v Millwall Lionesses; Maidstone Tigresses v Stanton Rangers; Wimbledon v Doncaster Belles.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

3.0 unless stated

Hull v Leigh (3.15)
Warrington v Halifax (3.0)
Wigan v Salford (3.0)

Second division

Bramley v Rochdale (3.30)
London Crusaders v Huddersfield
Oldham v Featherstone
Swinton v Carlisle

Third division

Batley v Highfield (2.30)
Blackpool v Hunslet (2.30)
Chorley v Whitehaven (3.15)
Keighley v Dewsbury (3.15)
Nottingham City v Doncaster
Ryedale York v Workington (3.15)

BRITISH COAL NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division: Waterhead v Blackbrook; Higginshaw v Wigan St Judes; East Leeds v Dewsbury Moor, Wigan St Pat's v Isberg Celtic; Leigh Miners v Woolston.

HOCKEY

PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: First division: St Albans v Slough (Clarence Park, 2.0). Second division: Harleston Magpies v Old Kingstonians (Shotford Heath, 2.0).

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Chelmsford v Ealing; Clifton v FP Sutton Coldfield; Exmouth v Balsam Leicester; Hightown v Doncaster; Ipswich v Wimbledon; Slough v Pickwick. Second division: Blueharts v Sherwood; Bradford Swithenbank v Trojans; Cambridge City v Bracknell; Colwall v Yate; Sunderland Bedens v Harleston Magpies.

PERONI SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier division B: Oxford University v Cheam.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Manchester Giants v Guildford Kings; Sunderland Saints v Cheshire Jets, Birmingham Bullets v Worthing Bears. Second division: Doncaster Panthers v Solent Stars. Third division: Liverpool Atac v Chiltern Fastbreak; Camberley Eagles v Leicester Falcons. Women: First division: London Jets v Cheshire; Milton Keynes Q Cats v Thames Valley; Rhondda v Nottingham Wildcats. Second division: Cardiff v Houghton Regis Raiders: Stonebridge Amazons v Brixton Lady Topcats.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff Devils v Durham Wasps; Norwich and Peterborough Pirates v Murrayfield Racers; Nottingham Panthers v Humberside Seahawks; Whitley Warriors v Billingham Bombers. First division: Lee Valley Lions v Medway Bears; Romford Raiders v Milton Keynes Kings; Sheffield Steelers v Telford Tigers.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND KNOCK-OUT CUP (at Crystal Palace): Age-group Finals: Under-16: Girls: Portbrook Portsmouth v Manchester United Salford (2.0) Boys: Lyces Francis v Ribbles High School. Under-18: Girls: Portbrook Portsmouth v Manchester United Salford (2.0) Boys: Camden v Mayfield Portsmouth.

TENNIS

VAUXHALL INDOOR TROPHY: National quarter-finals: Men: Puma Sunderland v Ilkley; Edgbaston Priory v Riverside Chiswick; Surrey Country Club v Puma Welwyn; Match Point Southampton v Royal Berkshire

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England leave DeFreitas out of Sri Lanka Test match for lack of pace and fire

Atherton returns to fold in opening role

FROM PETER BALL
IN COLOMBO

ENGLAND yesterday dropped Phillip DeFreitas for the Test match with Sri Lanka beginning here this morning. There was better news for Michael Atherton, who returns to the side as opener for his first game since the Bombay Test against India three weeks ago. Alec Stewart moves down to bat at No. 5 to accommodate the extra demands of keeping wicket and captaining the side.

Bombay was Atherton's only game in five weeks, which is far from ideal preparation, however hard he has worked in the nets. In England's present form, however, he can hardly do worse than anyone else. "We haven't had a good start, we haven't had an opening partnership," Keith Fletcher, the England manager, said yesterday. If Atherton had played more, rather than using Stewart as an opener while Blakey kept wicket, it might have been a different story.

Fletcher said yesterday that Stewart's decision to bat at five had been planned from day one. "But through injury and illness we've been unable to put it into effect until now," he said.

The omission of Atherton from the Madras Test and the one-day game had little to do with illness or injury, however, and it is to be hoped the inevitable rustiness will not hamper him too much against a fairly gentle pair of opening bowlers.

While Atherton can feel ill-used, DeFreitas had no complaints about his omission yesterday. "He hasn't bowled well enough," Fletcher said bluntly. "Right the way through the tour he has lacked pace and lacked fire. There doesn't seem to be anything there." Fletcher traced DeFreitas's lack of penetration to the groin injury which kept him out for six weeks last summer.

The bowler was not persuaded about that, but he conceded that he had struggled since a recurrence of the injury in the second one-day international against India seven weeks ago. "I just haven't bowled well," DeFreitas said. "I've had a bad tour, and I can't hide from that. I have been very disappointed.

"I needed to play regularly to find my rhythm again but when I came back from the injury there weren't any three-day games to give me the work I needed. I gave it my all, but it hasn't worked out."

With his batting no longer strong enough for him to be considered as an all-rounder, DeFreitas was not even given a hope of a last-minute reprieve yesterday when Lewis, who had survived India unscathed, went down with a head cold and sore throat. If he does not recover, Reeve will come in as the all-rounder to bat at seven, at the cost of leaving the seam bowling looking distinctly thin. Cynics might say it would anyway.

One or two players will look at DeFreitas's fate and say, "there but for the grace of God . . .". Among them are Mike Gatting and several of the bowlers.

The pitch today is unlikely to give them much encouragement initially, although the groundsman believes it will turn later in the match. That should please Phil Tufnell and John Emburey, who took six for 33 in his previous Test here, in 1981-2.

The Sri Lankans are a more formidable side these days, and have beaten New Zealand this winter. They should also have beaten Australia last September. Needing 181 at three an over on the last day, they reached 127 for two before hysteria set in and they lost by 16 runs.

"It was the greatest lesson we have had in the last 11 years," Ranatunga, their captain, said yesterday. England will hope that Sri Lanka do not get into a position today to benefit from that lesson.

TEAMS

SRI LANKA (from): R S Mahanama, U C Hathurusinghe, A P Gurusinha, P A de Silva, A Ranatunga (captain), H P Tillekeratne, A de Silva, C P Ramanayake, J Warnaweera, M Muralidharan, S T Jayasuriya, R G C E Wijesuriya, D Liyanage.
ENGLAND: M A Atherton, R A Smith, M W Gatting, G A Hick, A J Stewart (captain), N H Fairbrother, C C Lewis or D A Reeve, J E Emburey, P W Jarvis, P C R Tufnell, D E Malcolm.

Gautier completes solo race success

DESPITE an eleventh-hour flat calm that delayed his arrival by eight hours, Alain Gautier yesterday crossed the finish line at Les Sables d'Olonne, France to win the second Vendee Globe solo round-the-world yacht race (Malcolm McKeag writes). Gautier had led the race — at three months and 25,000 miles long, the world's only solo non-stop circumnavigation competition — since crossing the equator 15 days from the start last November. After 110 days at sea, he was more than 1,000 miles ahead of his nearest rival at the finish.

Behind the Frenchman, in second place off Gibraltar, Philippe Poupon lost his main mast on Fleury Michon and will now almost certainly drop back a position behind Jean-Luc Van Den Heede, in Sofap Helvim. "Everything was fine," Poupon said. "Then I heard a noise and went on deck. I noticed the shrouds were slack and the mast collapsed straight after that." Poupon has suffered in the Vendee Globe race before. In the first event, his yacht capsized.

Bonaly's hopes spin

ICE SKATING: Surya Bonaly, the favourite, suffered a setback when the women's contest at the world championships began in Prague yesterday (Michael Coleman writes). The French 19-year-old finished third in the technical programme behind the faultless Nancy Kerrigan, of the United States, who goes into today's deciding free programme ahead of the Ukranian, Oksana Bayul.

Bonaly allowed her free blade to touch the ice in the flying spin and it cost her. Kerrigan's choice of lutz as her solo double jump was better than the flip on which Bonaly and Bayul decided. Charlene von Saher, the British champion, was seventeenth.

Tournament threat

HOCKEY: The bombings which killed nearly 200 people in Bombay yesterday may force another postponement of the Indira Gandhi men's tournament (Sydney Friskin writes). The England team's hotel was hit by an explosion but the players and officials were uninjured. The management have requested a move to a hotel near the tournament venue, round-the-clock security and police escort to the ground. The same assurances have been demanded by the French, who are due to play England in the first match on Monday but have yet to arrive. Organisers will decide today if the event, featuring England, India, France, Poland and Russia, will be played. It has been postponed twice already.

Seles stands down



TENNIS: Monica Seles, right, the world No. 1, has withdrawn from the Lipton championships, which started in Florida yesterday, because she is still suffering from a flu virus she contracted in Paris three weeks ago. Jim Courier, of the United States, the world No. 1, is the top seed in the men's singles. He is seeking his fourth title of the year and his second in successive weeks.

Racers make protest

SKIING: Twelve of the world's leading 15 women downhill racers boycotted the training session in Hafjell, Norway, yesterday in protest at the condition of the piste set aside for the World Cup downhill race today. They said the slope was too gentle and claimed the layout was unworthy of a World Cup race, even though the same course will be used during the winter Olympic Games in Lillehammer next year. However, all the skiers will take part in the race today. Patrick Ortlieb, Austria's Olympic downhill gold medal-winner, has threatened to sue the international ski federation over a knee injury he received when running into a hole in a World Cup downhill in Aspen earlier this month.

Rally changes course

MOTOR SPORT: The Lombard London-Sydney Marathon rally for historic cars will now take to the air in a dramatic measure to re-route the event following difficulties in guaranteeing a safe crossing from Iran into Russia. An airlift involving two giant Antonov AN-124 freighters, the largest aircraft in the world, will ship all 110 cars and their crews direct from Turkey to Delhi, in India, where they will resume the 11,000-mile journey. The rally, which leaves London on April 17, had been scheduled to head from eastern Turkey into Iran.

Stewart seeks coaching improvements

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

IN A positive response to the dismal winter showing of England cricket teams overseas, the coaching staff of every first-class county was summoned to Lilleshall this week for a seminar conducted by the former England manager, Micky Stewart.

The action taken by Stewart, in his new role as national director of coaching and development, may have no immediate impact but is a welcome attempt to focus on the flawed techniques of English players rather than their sartorial failings.

On this subject, Tetley, the England cricket team sponsors, said yesterday that the players were not contracted to wear their brand clothing at all times and promised full support for any future directive on dress code.

The concentration on this side issue at this week's meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board seemed either fatuous, or deliberately diverting, in the light of England's melancholy results in India.

What did not emerge from the meeting, however, was that Stewart had already contacted the county coaches with what amounted to a three-line whip. Given relatively short notice, some interrupted holidays to attend the two-day gathering and there were few absentees.

Much of the work was of a practical nature, specialist themes being demonstrated by Geoff Arnold, Mike Hendrick, Jack Birkenshaw, Clive Radley and Alan Knott. But there were also two extensive discussion forums, in which varying styles of coaching experienced players were debated.

"We all learned something," Stewart said. "The cricket our teams have played on tour this year was obviously of concern to us all and we used it as an example of areas where we have to improve."

A total of 45 coaches went to Lilleshall for an event so unusual that some were convinced it had been provoked by England's embarrassments abroad and went expecting a stern dissection of their methods. Stewart would not confirm this but pointed out that there had only been one previous conference for county coaches three years ago.

One outcome of the seminar was an agreement that it will be repeated twice a year, probably in March and November. "It is a useful talking shop for one thing," Stewart said, "but I am keen for the teaching of the game, from grass roots through to the top level, to be updated."

Stewart will inevitably find some resistance to the pooling of ideas as he is dealing with men who are primarily employed as opponents. He may also encounter initial suspicion of his plan to instigate an elite coaching qualification, based on the FA coaching badge.

"If some coaches don't want to take such a course, fair enough," Stewart said. "There can be no compulsion. After all, I don't suppose Bill Shankly ever saw an FA coaching badge and he didn't do too badly. But in general, I think it will raise standards, which has to be my aim."

In the past few months, Stewart has toured Britain, monitoring the way in which the game is taught. "In terms of numbers playing and following the game, we are the strongest cricketing nation in the world," he said. "But we have two distinct games here — first-class cricket and recreational cricket — and the distinction is holding us back."

☐ Graham Thorpe, with 44, steered England A to a five-wicket victory over a Western Australian XI in Perth yesterday. Thorpe shared the batting honours with Paul Prichard, who was out for 42 with England well on their way to a modest target of 214 in 50 overs.



High five: Morrison, who took five for 37, celebrates his 100th Test wicket

Dubious decision stumps Border

AUSTRALIA collapsed to 139 for nine on the first day of the final Test match against New Zealand in Auckland before bad light and rain ruled out the final session.

Craig McDermott was at the crease by 3pm after a disastrous decision to bat by Allan Border, the Australia captain. Danny Morrison took five for 37 as New Zealand's bowlers exploited movement on a wicket that looked deceptively flat.

David Boon and Mark Taylor, the openers, batted confidently for the first hour, putting on 38 runs, but then six wickets fell for ten runs.

Border was victim of a bizarre dismissal. Morrison beat him comprehensively, brushing his off stump on the way through to Tony Blain, the wicketkeeper. The bails stayed on but Chris King, the umpire, gave him out.

Morrison said later he felt Border had edged the ball but he agreed television replays appeared to show the sound was probably the ball touching his off stump. Martin Crowe, the New Zealand captain, admitted that Border should not have been dismissed.

Ian Healy departed for nought, like Border and Damien Martyn, before Merv Hughes joined Steve Waugh for a 53-run partnership. Hughes was caught on the boundary after lofting four fours and a six. Australia lead the three-match series 1-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings

D C Boon lbw b Watson	20
M A Taylor lbw b Morrison	13
J L Langer c Blain b Morrison	0
D Martyn c Blain b Watson	1
S R Waugh c Jones b Watson	41
*A R Border c Blain b Morrison	0
†I A Healy c Jones b Morrison	0
M G Hughes c Su'a b Patel	33
P R Reiffel c Blain b Morrison	9
S K Warne not out	3
C J McDermott not out	6
Extras (lb 7, nb 6)	13
Total (9 wkts)	139

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-38, 3-39, 4-39, 5-43, 6-48, 7-101, 8-121, 9-133.
BOWLING: Morrison 18-5-37-5 (nb4); Su'a 14-3-27-0 (nb2); Watson 18-8-47-3; Patel 4-0-21-1.
NEW ZEALAND: J G Wright, M J Greatbatch, A H Jones, *M D Crowe, K R Rutherford, C Z Harris, †T E Blain, D N Patel, D K Morrison, M L Su'a, W K Watson.

Crows aiming to produce second national champion

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

IF singlemindedness was the only prerequisite for success, Alistair Crow would be the 1993 men's point-to-point champion rider.

West Shropshire farmers Edward and Sheila Crow have already produced one national champion in their daughter, Lucy, in 1989, and are now pulling out all the stops for their 24-year-old son to follow suit.

Lucy, now married and with a one-year-old daughter, has retained the ride on Singing Seal, but the pick of the stable now goes to her brother. "He gave up rides for me at Easter when I won my title," she said, "now it is his turn."

Alistair Crow is now in his eighth season of race riding and is presently sharing the lead with Jon Trice-Rolph, each having ridden eight winners. He has the chance to ride at least ten of their own horses, six for Roy Edwards, his uncle, and any number of outside rides.

Probably the best two in their own stable, Call Me Citizen and Equity Player, are waiting for the ground to soften. Sheila Crow is considering entering one of them for a Times Rising Stars series qualifier. "But I don't want to prejudice Alistair's chances by mixing hunter chasing with point-to-points this season," she stressed.

With firmish ground nearly everywhere, the Crows, like many this weekend, will be walking the course for the Tanatside meeting before making final plans for today's runners.

However, one who goes well on the firm, Yabbadabbado, third in a Cartmel bumper a year ago, will be in action in division one of the maiden, Abbreviation goes in the open and Crow has the choice of Shean Deaf or John Lomas's Freddy Freckles in the confined.

Crow's chief rival, Jon Trice-Rolph, had planned to be at that meeting with four rides for Jenny Pidgeon. In consultation with Graham Pidgeon, her father, he has decided, however, to keep them all at home except for Wild Illusion, who will be going to the Oakley. "We're definitely taking him," said Pidgeon, "but it will depend on the going whether or not he comes out of the box."

In the open, Trice-Rolph will be on Snowfire Chap, who chased the useful One More Knight home at Mollington last Saturday.



Trice-Rolph: late switch to Oakley

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Avon Vale, Bartury Castle, four miles north west of Marlborough (first race 12.30); Brecon, Llanfrynach, 3m SE of Brecon (12.00); Essex, High Easter, 6m NW of Chelmsford (1.00); Holderness, Dalton Park, 5m NW of Beverley (1.00); North Ledbury, Upton-on-Severn, 5m N of Tewkesbury (12.30), Oakley, Newton Bromswold, 3m SE of Rushden (12.00); Silverton, Haldon NH course, 6m SW of Exeter (1.00); South East Hunts Club, Charing, 6m NE of Ashford (1.00); Tanatside, Eyton-on-Severn, 6m SE of Shrewsbury (12.30); Tynedale, Corbridge, 3m N of town (1.00), Western, Waddonbridge, 1m W of town (1.00), West Somerset Vale, Kingston-St-Mary, 3m N of Taunton (1.30).

RESULTS (Thursday): Pembrokeshire, Lydstep, Hunt: 1, Fox Porter (J Dukes, 3-1); 2, Timber Tool 3, Speculate 4 ran Inter: 1, Daisy Miller (P Thomas 1-2 fav), 2, Castle Farm, 3, Jack Sound, 6 ran Open: 1, Brunico (T Trologgen, 1-4 fav); 2, Travistown; 3, Junior 5 ran. Rest: 1, Cool Relation (A Phillips, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, First Design; 3, Wolver's Pet, 13 ran. Ladies: 1, Rockin Of Sherwood (Miss E Pearce, 6-4 jt-fav), 2, Zamzam; 3, Kyme Warrior, 5 ran. Confined: 1, Gold Shot (T Jones, 1-3 fav), 2, Fast Freeze, 3, Majestic Buck, 6 ran. Mdn (Div 1): 1, Lucky Ole Son (P Hamer, 6-4 jt-fav), 2, Origami; 3, Medieval Queen, 7 ran Mdn (Div II): 1, Valiant Friend (Miss B Barton, 10-11), 2, Slice Of The Action, 3, Bryn's Story, 11 ran. Mdn (Div III): 1, Gaelic Belle (G Hughes, 2-1 fav); 2, Normski, 3, Video Dealer 11 ran.

O'Grady checks going

SO FAR as Irish punters are concerned, one of the more crucial decisions for Cheltenham will be taken tomorrow by Eddie O'Grady after he has walked the course (Our Irish Racing Correspondent writes).

The inspection has been prompted by fears that the ground might be too lively for his Christies Foxhunter Chase candidate, Perfect Orchid.

Only five-years-old, Perfect Orchid has already proved himself an outstanding young horse on the point-to-point scene and also beat two other top hunters, Matt Reid and Over The Edge, in a hunter chase at Thurles. "He is too promising a horse to take a risk with," O'Grady said.

Noel Meade has booked Charlie Swan to ride Heist in the bumper on Wednesday as Stephen Craine is required to ride at the big Leopardstown Flat meeting.

Naas breaks tradition today by starting the new Flat season, four days ahead of schedule. Jim Bolger will have fancied runners, Bright Storm, Carrick Pine and Pernilla, in all three Flat races on the mixed programme, but my best news for the curtain-raiser centres on the Con Collins-trained Teazel Boy.

THE SPECIALISTS

THUNDERER
1.00 Zamirah. 2.30 TAKEMETHERE (nap).
1.30 Flashthecash. 3.00 Shaston.
2.00 Winter Squall. 3.30 The Black Monk.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 1.00 ZAMIRAH.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

1.00 BERKELEY HURDLE (4-Y-O: £5,208: 2m 110yd) (7 runners) BBC1

1		050	BO KNOWS BEST 14 (N Goldman) J Sutcliffe 11-0	A Maguire	–
2		U16611	COURT CIRCULAR 3 (D) (B S Ltd) W Clay 11-0	Diane Clay	87
3		5	DUNNOSIS VIEW 30 (F Tucker) F Tucker 11-0	C Maude	66
4		424	KING'S TREASURE 63 (P Melton) J Gelding 11-0	S Earle	95
5			NADJATI 181F (T Whitley) D Goodlatte 11-0	P Holley	–
6			SOUTHFAST 200F (M Starr) J Old 11-0	T Grantham	–
7		411	ZAMIRAH 7 (D,F,G) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 10-13	P Scudamore	88

BETTING: 4-6 Zamirah, 9-2 Bo Knows Best, 5-1 Kings Treasure, 8-1 Court Circular, 16-1 Southfast, 20-1 Dunnocks View, Nadjati.
1992: PETOSKU 11-0 C Llewellyn (14-1) N Twiston-Davies 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

BO KNOWS BEST 23½l 5th of 22 to Cultured in Windsor (2m, soft) novice hurdle on penultimate start; disappointed last time when, well backed, failed all a competitive Kempton race (2m, good) won by Amazon Express.
COURT CIRCULAR completed double when beating Mizar's Law 7½l in 8-runner Smithwell (2m, AW) novice hurdle. DUNNOSIS VIEW 41l 5th of 10 to Macallister in Warrington (2m, good) novice hurdle.
KING'S TREASURE 8l 4th of 13 to Suez Canal in Warwick (3m, soft) novice hurdle. Better effort when previously 8l 2nd of 21 to Indian Quest at Nottingham (2m, soft). NADJATI quite useful Tru 4l winner on the Flat in Ireland.
SOUTHFAST showed fair form on the Flat in France, winning a Maisons-Laffitte (1m 2f, soft) maiden in July. ZAMIRAH completed double when beating Snow Board 3½l in 8-runner Newbury (2m 110yd, firm) novice hurdle with useful Anshan 9l away third.
Selection: ZAMIRAH

1.30 LIFETIME UK NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,425: 2m 3f 110yd) (7 runners) BBC1

1		2F1FF1	FLASHTHECASH 15 (F,S) (Dr G Macan Moran) G Balding 7-11-10	A Maguire	88
2		3-P224P	FRENCH CHARMER 28 (H Pelham) J Gifford 8-11-4	D Murphy	98
3		3-01232	SAILORS LUCK 7 (BF,S) (G Greenwood) P Mapley 8-11-4	E Murphy	95
4		462441	PIMS GUNNER 9 (F,S) (T Brooks) D Burchell 5-11-3	D J Burchell	87
5		U5044P	SENEGALIUS 48 (S) (S Tindall) S Mellor 9-11-1	S Earle	80
6		34222F	GOLDEN FARE 15 (N Barrowclough) R Lee 8-10-9	D Tegg	85
7		03F/5P6	KILKILMARTIN 10 (H Manners) N Manners 11-10-8	A Tory	82

BETTING: 7-4 Flashthecash, 3-1 Pims Gunner, 7-2 Sailors Luck, 5-1 French Charmer, 8-1 Golden Fare, 20-1 Senegalius, 25-1 Kilkilmartin.
1992: BOOK OF GOLD 7-11-10 D J Murphy (5-1) J Gifford 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

FLASHTHECASH beat Sally's Gem 2l in 15-runner Stratford (3m, good to soft) novice handicap chase with GOLDEN FARE close 5th when left 13th; previously challenging for lead when fell last in Bangor race (2m 4f 110yd, soft) won by Tim Soldier. FRENCH CHARMER 11 2nd of 16 to Rathvindon House in Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) novice chase in January.
SAILORS LUCK back 2nd of 6 to Aldbourne Belt in Hereford (2m, good to firm) novice chase. PIMS GUNNER beat Bobby Socks 12l to 8-runner Ludlow (2m 4f, good to firm) novice chase.
GOLDEN FARE 9l 3rd of 10 to Young Ty in Doncaster (2m 3f 110yd, good) novice chase on penultimate start.
Selection: GOLDEN FARE

2.00 BEAUFORT HURDLE (5-Y-O: £12,575: 2m 110yd) (8 runners) BBC1

1		305	BOOK OF MUSIC 35 (bls D Lowndes) J Gifford 11-5	D Murphy	97
2		22	BRANDON PRINCE 14 (B) (B Michalowski) I Balding 11-5	S Earle	99
3			CRU EXCEPTIONNEL 147F (B Peppiatt) P Hobbs 11-5	Peter Hobbs	–
4		600111	FOTOEXPRESS 17 (C,S) (The Fotoexpress Partnership) R Rowe 11-5	Mr C Bonsett-Wells	87
5		3-1111	OATIS REGRETS 29 (D,S) (D Gyle-Thompson) Miss H Knight 11-5	J Osborne	97
6		220-441	PHARLY STORY 19 (D,F) (A Lowe) M Pipe 11-5	P Scudamore	88
7		410153	RIVER ISLAND 17 (D,S) (W Sturt) J Old 11-5	C Llewellyn	91
8		3-05112	WINTER SQUALL 14 (D,BF,S) (bls S Robles) D Nicholson 11-5	R Dunwoody	97

BETTING: 2-1 Winter Squall, 5-2 Oats Regrets, 5-1 Brandon Prince, 8-1 Pharly Story, 12-1 others.
1992: CARDBEE 5-11-5 R Dunwoody (6-4 fav) D Nicholson 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

BRANDON PRINCE 11½l 2nd to As Du Traite in Haydock (2m 4f, good) novice hurdle. FOTOEXPRESS beat Snowdyden neck to Folkestone (2m 1f, 110yd, good) novice hurdle last time. OATIS REGRETS beat Tracking Trix 5l in Newbury (2m 5f, good to soft) novice hurdle (debut start). PHARLY STORY beat Monsieur Le Cure 1l in Worcester (2m 2f, good to firm) novice hurdle. WINTER SQUALL 3l 2nd of 9 to Roll A Dollar in Kempton (2m, good) novice hurdle. Previously beat Silverstone 1l in 10-runner Sandown (2m 110yd, good to soft) novice hurdle with BOOK OF MUSIC (same form) 20l¼l 5th.
Selection: WINTER SQUALL

2.30 LLANGIBBY HANDICAP CHASE (£2,976: 2m 3f 110yd) (6 runners)

1		P/34361	PANTO PRINCE 7 (C,F,S,S) (Mrs L Warren) C Popham 12-11-12	R Dunwoody	99
2		P35124	SIRRAH JAY 2 (C,F,S,S) (Ellis Gate Racing) G Balding 13-11-5	A Maguire	94
3		4U-5013	TAKEMETHERE 7 (D,F,S,S) (J Greenwood) M Pipe 9-10-12	D Richmond (5)	92
4		622-624	WAY OF LIFE 57 (S) (T Hassenbroq) S Mellor 8-10-8	S Earle	87
5		140224	SOLAR CLOUD 7 (F,S,S) (D Davies) M Charles 11-10-0	Jody Davies (7)	93
6		50231-3	LITTLE TOM 16 (S) (M O'Connor) J King 8-10-0	J Osborne	80

Long handicap: Solar Cloud 9-11, Little Tom 9-10.
BETTING: 2-1 Takemethere, 11-4 Panto Prince, 7-2 Way Of Life, 6-1 Sirrah Jay, 7-1 Little Tom, 16-1 Solar Cloud.
1992: REPEAT THE DOSE 7-10-6 M Richards (4-1) T Etherington 5 ran

3.00 MONMOUTHSHIRE NOVICES CHASE (£2,808: 3m) (5 runners)

1		2F2DP3	FATHER DOWLING 8 (G) (Mrs E Haycock) G Balding 6-11-6	A Maguire	84
2		U0-14P0	FENTON BRIDGE 15 (D,S) (Fell-cast Partners) A Turnell 9-11-5	D Fortt (7)	72
3		P5F-16F	LUCKY VILLAIN 23 (D,S) (Concrete Products Ltd) N Henderson 8-11-5	D Murphy	75
4		200151	SHASTON 12 (B,F,G,S) (Kavanagh Roofing Ltd) W G M Turner 8-11-5	D Murphy	85
5		U1M-U04	MASTER MUCK 9 (S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 10-11-3	D Salter (7)	88

BETTING: 5-4 Shaston, 9-4 Father Dowling, 3-1 Lucky Villain, 8-1 Fenton Bridge, 16-1 Master Muck.
1992: RIVERSIDE BOY 9-11-8 P Scudamore (2-7 fav) M Pipe 8 ran

3.30 CURRE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,232: 2m 4f 110yd) (6 runners)

1		51/22-34	CRYSTAL BEAR 17 (S) (Lady Knatchbull) T Forster 6-12-0	C Llewellyn	99
2		111353	THE BLACK MONK 30 (V,CD,BF,F,S,S) (Pipe/Sea Racing) M Pipe 5-11-0	D Richmond (5)	98
3		1231/02/	AUTHORSHIP 63/4F (D,F,S) (Mrs J Rawlins) W Musson 7-10-6	D Murphy	–
4		121/450	SKITTLE ALLEY 29 (S) (Mrs B Mayhew) S Mellor 7-10-0	D Murphy	–
5		0002-P	AKIMBO 28 (A Price) William Price 6-10-0	S Earle	90
6		3FFP00	LUCKY HELMET 15 (S) (W McKenzie-Coles) W McKenzie-Coles 9-10-0	A Maguire	73

Long handicap: Skittle Alley 9-4, Akimbo 8-13, Lucky Helmet 8-3.
BETTING: 6-4 The Black Monk, 7-4 Crystal Bear, 5-1 Skittle Alley, 8-1 Authorship, 14-1 others.
1992: CASTELIER 4-10-3 S Bradley (5-4 fav) C Brooks 12 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	153	289	30.1	P Scudamore	51	134	38.1
D Nicholson	10	42	23.8	D Murphy	5	27	25.0
N Henderson	8	38	21.1	S Smith Eccles	5	23	21.7
J Old	7	40	17.5	R Dunwoody	18	91	19.8
R Lee	7	49	14.3	J Osborne	8	45	17.8
N Twiston-Davies	6	42	14.3	P Holley	3	22	13.6

Champion trainer can work oracle again with recent recruit

Olympian to blaze Sandown trail

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

THE avalanche of statistics, records and analysis which goes hand in hand with British racing offers no escape for trainers whose horses are out of form.

Numbers of winners or lack of them, days or weeks since the last precious success are faithfully recorded every morning in the racing trade papers to leave suffering handlers fully exposed to the public glare.

Embarrassing as a month without a winner can be, there is, however, one fate which is worse. The ultimate humiliation is to have a horse with no form, or at least no recent form, taken away by disgruntled owners and sent to another yard from where it wins a string of races.

Martin Pipe, who remains light years ahead of many of his contemporaries, is the past master at being sent out-of-form horses from other yards and transforming them into improved performers.

Horses such as My Dominion, Aquilifer, Beau Ranger, Out Of The Gloom, Corporal Clinger, Vagog and Carvills Hill have followed a similar path via another stable to find success at Pipe's yard.

[redacted]

Nap: MULBANK
(4.40 Sandown)
Next best: Zamirah
(1.00 Chepstow)

Olympian is the latest example, having been trained by Tom McGovern until last year. A useful four-year-old two seasons ago when he won the Ripley Hurdle before finishing fifth in the Triumph Hurdle, he paid the penalty last season when he was too high in the handicap. Eleven races without a victory prompted a move to Pipe and, sure enough, last Saturday, Olympian won as he pleased in his first run for the champion trainer.

In this afternoon's feature race at Sandown, the Sunderlands Imperial Cup, Olympian looks extremely well treated, racing off a mark only 2lb higher than a week ago — and 17lb less than that for his first run last season.

Peter Scudamore is flying to Sandown by helicopter after riding at Chepstow and he can make the journey worthwhile by partnering Olympian to success in the £30,000-added race. Significantly, Olympian was cut from 20-1 to 8-1 by William Hill for the Coral Cup at Cheltenham on Wednesday.

The champion jockey can get on the winning trail before he leaves the Welsh course with the improving Zamirah, who is taken to win the opening Berkeley Hurdle.

Oatis Regrets used to be the nearest thing to an equine lunatic, but Henrietta Knight has used her considerable skills to calm the highly-strung five-year-old and he is unbeaten this season. Despite reverting to two miles after winning over five furlongs further at Newbury last month, he can maintain his record.



Pipe: Acknowledged master at improving out-of-form horses from other yards

Country Member backed

CORALS yesterday became the first bookmakers to offer prices for the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham next Wednesday, but were taking no chances after being subject to a substantial festival gamble.

The Barking-based firm was inundated with bets yesterday for Country Member in Tuesday's Ritz Club Chase and was forced to cut the price of Andy Turnell's chaser from 3-1 to 2-1.

In the Sun Alliance, Corals have installed Young Hustler as their 7-4 favourite. Barton Bank, David Nicholson's smart novice, is second favourite at 5-2 and Corals then offer 7-1 against Whispering Steel, from Gordon Richards's yard. Capability Brown is 8-1 with Ashfold Copse on 10-1.

The Queen Mother Champion Chase is a two-horse race according to William Hill and Coral, with both firms going 8-1 bar the front two, Katabatic and Waterloo Boy.

[redacted]

THUNDERER

2.00 Amari King. 3.35 Rowlandsons Jewels.
2.30 Sparkling Sunset. 4.10 Avro Anson.
3.00 Martha's Son. 4.40 Mulbank.
(If abs Alreef). 5.10 Spirit In The Nite.

GOING: FIRM SIS

2.00 DICK McCREERY CUP HANDICAP CHASE
(Amateurs: £3,659: 2m 4f 110yd) (3 runners)

101 122-524 AMARI KING 43 (C,F,G,S) (M Ward-Thomas) T Forster 9-12-0 C Ward Thomas (7) 99
102 2-33233 SPRINGHOLM 43 (C,BF,F,G,S) (C Harvey) D Nicholson 11-10-7 J Wingfield Digby (7) 97
103 3334-52 THEY ALL FORGOT ME 7 (D,F,G) (J McCarthy) T Casey 6-10-7 G Lewis (7) 76

Long handicap: Springholm 10-4, They All Forgot Me 9-8.

BETTING: 4-5 Amari King, 7-4 Springholm, 9-2 They All Forgot Me.

1992: AMARI KING 8-11-7 C Ward Thomas (5-4) T Forster 3 ran

2.30 HMS SANDOWN NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,967: 2m 110yd) (4 runners)

201 103 PONTOON BRIDGE 22 (S) (E Parker) G Harwood 6-11-0 M Perrett 91
202 F22 SPARKLING SUNSET 32 (BF) (R Shiel) N Henderson 5-11-0 J Kavanagh 99
203 56U521 CLEEVELAND LADY 12 (G) (Mrs P Beich) W G M Turner 6-10-13 R Darke (7) 97
204 00 CORAL PINK 21 (T Richardson) K Bailey 5-10-9 S McNeill 84

BETTING: 4-5 Sparkling Sunset, 7-4 Pontoon Bridge, 6-1 Cleeveland Lady, 20-1 Coral Pink.

1992: COPPER MINE 6-11-8 J Osborne (2-9 fav) O Sherwood 5 ran

3.00 BARCLAYS BANK HANDICAP HURDLE C4
(Amateurs: £4,274: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

301 0-1311P MARTHA'S SON 49 (D,F,G,S) (P Hartigan) T Forster 9-12-0 C Ward Thomas (7) 98
302 664123 ALREEF 18 (D,S) (H Sibley) T Thomson Jones 7-10-12 O Ellwood (7) 99
303 223441 CHANTRY BARTLE 54 (D,F,S) (Mrs J Scott) C Thornton 7-10-7 G Wheeler (7) 96
304 312324 MACEDONAS 21 (D,S) (Mrs B Moss) T Casey 5-10-7 G Lewis (7) 94
305 440253 FREE JUSTICE 17 (D,S) (B Lockhart) A J Wilson 9-10-7 A Smith-Maxwell (7) 88
306 091600 THE HIDDEN CITY 30 (D,G) (Mrs D Potter) C Trietline 7-10-7 B Marquis (7) 79
307 633012 HAPPY HORSE 5 (BF,S) (I Manning) D Barons 6-10-7 J Wingfield Digby (7) 73
308 30P/00 DOUBLE U DEE 8 (Mrs H Haynes) H Haynes 10-10-7 Y Mahmut (7) —

□ Martha's Son runs only in the event of overnight rain.

Long handicap: Macedonas 10-0, Free Justice 9-4, The Hidden City 9-1, Happy Horse 9-0, Double U Dee 8-3.

BETTING: 9-4 Martha's Son, 7-2 Chantry Bartle, 5-1 Alreef, 6-1 Happy Horse, 7-1 Macedonas, 8-1 Free Justice, 10-1 The Hidden City, 33-1 Double U Dee.

1992: KETTI 7-11-5 Mr G Lewis (7-1) D Williams 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

MARTHA'S SON beat Miami Splash 3l in 14-runner Newbury (2m 110yd, soft) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. ALREEF 6½l 3rd of 4 finishers to Keen Vision in Lingfield (2m 2f, standard) handicap hurdle. CHANTRY BARTLE beat Out The Gap 1½l in 9-runner Carlisle (2m 1f, soft) novice hurdle. MACEDONAS over 17l 4th of 6 finishers to Soleil Dancer in Windsor (2m, soft) handicap hurdle. HAPPY HORSE 2l 2nd of 5 to Ercall Miller in Wolverhampton (3m 1f 110yd, good to firm) novice handicap hurdle.
Selection: CHANTRY BARTLE

3.35 MACMILLAN NURSE APPEAL HANDICAP CHASE C4
(£4,221: 3m 110yd) (7 runners)

401 0-543P2 ESPY 21 (CD,F,G,S) (R A Bolt Ltd) C Brooks 10-11-10 G Bradley 91
402 613350 ROWLANDSONS JEWELS 14 (CD,F,G,S) D Murray Smith 12-10-12 D Gallagher 99
403 833/3-51 WONT BE GONE LONG 22 (CD,F,G) N Henderson 11-10-11 NON-RUNNER —
404 22214P BAPTISMAL FIRE 129 (F,G,S) (Mrs D Hornibrook) J Fitch-Heyes 9-10-9 J Kavanagh 96
405 P0P0R5 THE LEGGETT 2 (C,D,F,G,S) (A Ford) M Pipe 10-10-2 M Foster 94
406 13F-3P6 SIR NODDY 7 (D,F) (J Noden) C Vernon Miller 10-10-0 M A Fitzgerald 79
407 156-6P3 CAMDEN BELLE 15 (CD,F,G) (B Edgeley) M Muggeridge 11-10-0 Major O Ellwood 78

Long handicap: Sir Noddy 8-11, Camden Belle 7-13.

BETTING: 6-4 Espy, 3-1 Rowlandsons Jewels, 7-2 The Leggett, 4-1 Baptismal Fire, 14-1 Sir Noddy, 25-1 Camden Belle.

1992: BROWN WINDSOR 10-11-10 R Dunwoody (100-30) N Henderson 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

ESPY 2½l 2nd of 4 finishers to Zeta's Lad in Windsor (3m, soft) chase. ROWLANDSONS JEWELS best recent form when 13l 3rd of 14 to Young Hustler in Doncaster (3m, good) handicap chase. THE LEGGETT over 30l 5th of 8 to Smartie Express in Wincanton (2m 5f, good to firm) handicap chase. CAMDEN BELLE 6l 3rd of 9 to Western Legend in Wincanton (2m 5f, good) handicap chase.
Selection: ESPY (nap)

4.10 SUNDERLANDS IMPERIAL CUP HANDICAP HURDLE C4
(£20,398: 2m 110yd) (16 runners)

501 11-1132 AVRO ANSON 17 (D,BF,F,G) (B Slimon) M Camacho 5-11-10 D Byrne 93
502 6/1113- SPINNING 146F (CD,F,G) (P Mellon) I Balding 6-11-8 R Dunwoody 86
503 0-30042 BEEBOB 10 (D,BF,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-11-7 J Lower 85
504 0-41P82 MARLIN DANCER 15 (D,BF,G,S) (R Allen) Miss B Sanders 6-11-6 J Kavanagh 89
505 640-435 VILLA RECOS 12 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-3 M Pitman 89
506 321121 NIJMEGEN 15 (D,S) (W Hancock) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-2 M Dwyer 90
507 -50/81-2 KALOGY 56 (D,F) (Mrs B Taylor) Mrs J Retter 6-11-1 M A Fitzgerald 87
508 103042 SEON 8 (D,F,G,S) (C Hunter Ltd) W Bentley 7-10-12 N Bentley (3) 92
509 2-061F1 GYMCRAK STARDOM 23 (CD,G,S) (Gymcrak Racing III) M H Easterby 7-10-10 L Wyer 94
510 640-000 BOOKCASE 14F (B,D,F,G) (Adept Ltd) D Elsworth 6-10-10 P Holley 91
511 2/21415 SLEEPLINE ROYALE 23 (D,BF,F,G,S) T Thomson Jones 7-10-9 G Bradley 90
512 010003 NOBLE INSIGHT 12 (B,D,F,G,S) (Insight Cartons Ltd) M Pipe 6-10-7 M Perrett 89
513 514135 SAN LORENZO 70 (D,G,S) (J Greig) K Bailey 5-10-5 S McNeill 84
514 340520 SULLI BOY 12 (D,BF,F) (L Murphy) Miss B Sanders 8-10-3 D Gallagher 81
515 04000-1 OLYMPIAN 7 (B,CD,F,G) (M & N Plant Ltd) M Pipe 6-10-0 P Scudamore 99
516 15-1201 KEEN VISION 18 (D,G) (C Osborne) D Arbuthnot 5-10-0 Peter Hobbs 97

BETTING: 6-4 Olympian, 11-2 Spinning, 7-1 Gymcrak Stardom, 10-1 Avro Anson, 12-1 Kalogy, Nijmegen, 14-1 Keen Vision, 20-1 Beebob, Bookcase, 25-1 Sulli Boy, 33-1 San Lorenzo, Seon, 40-1 others.

1992: KING CREDO 7-10-4 A Maguire (9-2) S Woodman 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

AVRO ANSON beat 2nd of 7 to Good For A Loan in Doncaster (2m 110yd, firm) handicap hurdle with SEON (same terms) 13l 4th. SPINNING 5½l 3rd of 10 to King Credo in this race last year (good) with MARLIN DANCER (2lb better off) 15½l 8th. NIJMEGEN beat Champagne Gold 8l in 6-runner Haydock (2m, good to soft) handicap hurdle. KALOGY 2l 2nd of 7 to San Fernando in Ascot (2m 110yd, soft) handicap hurdle. GYMCRAK STARDOM beat SULLI BOY (same terms) 2½l in 7-runner handicap over course and distance (good) with VILLA RECOS (same terms) 2l 3rd and SLEEPLINE ROYALE (same terms) 2½l 5th. OLYMPIAN beat Wise Customer 12l in 7-runner Stratford (2m 6f 110yd, good) handicap hurdle. KEEN VISION beat Whippers Delight 6l in 5-runner Lingfield (2m 2f, AW) handicap hurdle.
Selection: GYMCRAK STARDOM

4.40 BURNT OAK & SPECIAL CARGO NOVICES CHASE C4
(£3,419: 2m) (5 runners)

601 P2-121P FLYING ZIAD 171 (F,G,S) (Mrs K Cundell) R Curtis 10-11-6 G Crone (7) —
602 33-6213 MULBANK 26 (D,F,S) (I Shaw) P Hobbs 7-11-6 C Maude 98
603 P485P1 PATS MINSTREL 12 (B,D,G) (K Hart) R Champion 8-11-6 M A Fitzgerald 82
604 5P1F12 SCOTONI 8 (D,BF,F,S) (D Robinson) R O'Sullivan 7-11-6 D O'Sullivan (5) 99
605 0403P4 KITTY BUTLER 12 (Mrs J Coleman) P Butler 7-10-11 M Hourigan (3) 70

BETTING: 4-6 Mulbank, 9-2 Scotoni, 6-1 Pats Minstrel, 7-1 Flying Ziad, 14-1 Kitty Butler.

1992: BUCK WILLOW 8-11-8 D J Murphy (2-7 fav) J Gifford 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

FLYING ZIAD beat Baba's Lady a distance in 4-runner Huntingdon (2m 4f 110yd, good to firm) novice chase in August. MULBANK 19½l 3rd of 8 to Washingtoncrossing in Newbury (2m 4f, good) novice chase. PATS MINSTREL beat Blue Ensign ½l in 8-runner Plumpton (2m, good) novice chase, with KITTY BUTLER 30l 4th. SCOTONI 10l 2nd of 4 finishers to St Athans Lad in Fontwell (2m 3f, good to firm) novice handicap chase.
Selection: MULBANK

5.10 FLYERS NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,996: 2m 110yd) (20 runners)

1 0 AUGER BORE 71 (W McKibbin) B Forsey 5-11-8 Mr M Armytage —
2 CELTINO (B Hellyer) T Forster 5-11-8 R Farrant (5) —
3 CUMREWS NEPHEW (B Cahill) R Brotherton 5-11-8 V Slattery (5) —
4 42 EMPEROR BUCK 17 (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 5-11-8 Mr T Jenks (7) —
5 FIRE AND REIGN (A Coburn) P Nicholls 5-11-8 N Bentley (3) —
6 JUMPIN' JIMMY (M Niland) R Brotherton 5-11-8 P Midgley (5) —
7 55 KING'S MAVERICK 39 (BF) (C Ellis) T Thomson Jones 5-11-8 D Gaughagan (5) —
8 0 TOO CLEVER BY HALF 91 R Johnson Houghton 5-11-8 Mr G Johnson Houghton —
9 UNCERTAIN TIMES (D Cornelius) R Rowe 5-11-8 Miss M Cornelius —
10 0 VITAL WONDER 14 (D Lucie-Smith) D Elsworth 5-11-8 A Procter (5) —
11 AIR BUCHAILL LIATH (K Bergin) T Hallett 4-11-0 E Tierney (5) —
12 CREAG DHUBH (P Deal) M Pipe 4-11-0 M Foster —
13 0 FRANK'S THE NAME 14 (M Madgwick) M Madgwick 4-11-0 J Clarke (7) —
14 30 OATS N BARLEY 32 (F Landrigan) P Rodford 4-11-0 T Thompson (7) —
15 8 POLICEMANS PRIDE 21 (P Madgwick) P Madgwick 4-11-0 A Madgwick (7) —
16 SPIRIT IN THE NITE (Mrs T Pilkington) J Gifford 4-11-0 P Hide (5) —
17 5 SQUIRE SILK 42 (R Ogden) Miss S Hall 4-11-0 M Hourigan (3) —
18 COUNTRY KIZZIE (N Thick) N Thick 4-10-9 D Meredith (3) —
19 0 DOLPHIN TOWN 14 (B Edgeley) M Muggeridge 4-10-9 R Darke (7) —
20 0 LIGHT SLIPPERS 21 (L McGarrigle) R Curtis 4-10-9 G Crone (7) —

BETTING: 9-4 Emperor Buck, 3-1 Creag Dhubh, 6-1 Celtino, 7-1 Spirit In The Nite, 10-1 Too Clever By Half, Vital Wonder, 14-1 Fire And Reign, Squire Silk, 16-1 Too Clever By Half, 20-1 others.

1992: MARTIN'S LAMP 5-11-1 W Aylos (25-1) J Gifford 22 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Jimmy Fitzgerald	4	11	36.4	J Lower	4	7	57.1
C Brooks	15	57	26.3	Mr C Ward Thomas	4	12	33.3
M Pipe	18	70	25.7	P Scudamore	16	54	29.6
D Nicholson	15	67	22.4	M Dwyer	4	14	28.6
K Bailey	7	34	20.6	L Wyer	3	11	27.3
T Thomson Jones	3	15	20.0	P Hide	3	11	27.3

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

CHEPSTOW
BBC1

1.00: Zamirah cannot logically be opposed following impressive fast-ground wins at Wincanton and Newbury. Bo Knows Best, a progressive handicapper on the Flat last year, can beat the disappointing King's Treasure and all-weather winner Court Circular for second.

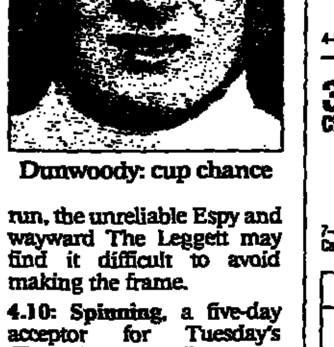
1.30: Pims Gunner, only five, won over the trip on fast ground at Ludlow nine days ago and is preferred to Flashthecash, who either wins or falls. These fences may find him out.

2.00: Winter Squall and Oatis Regrets head the market but all their wins have come with give underfoot and **Brandon Prince**, a Flat winner on good to firm, represents the value. On a line through Roll A Dollar, Brandon Prince has the beating of Winter Squall.

SANDOWN PARK
C4

3.00: With five of his rivals out of the handicap, **Martha's Son** can concede weight all round. He goes well fresh, likes the ground and has an able rider. If Tim Forster pulls him out, northern raider Chantry Bartle looks the likely beneficiary.

3.35: Rowlandsons Jewels, who won this in 1991, looks the safest bet in a bad race. With the bottom two well out of the handicap and Baptismal Fire likely to need the run, the unreliable Espy and wayward The Leggett may find it difficult to avoid making the frame.



Dunwoody: cup chance

4.10: Spinning, a five-day acceptor for Tuesday's Champion Hurdle, must beat hot favourite Olympian to justify the trip to Cheltenham. A good third to King Credo in the Imperial Cup 12 months ago, Spinning has the class to do just that and Richard Dunwoody flies in from Chepstow for the ride. Lightly-raced Kalogy has each-way claims.

4.40: Mulbank, third to Washingtoncrossing in a better race at Newbury last time, can regain the winning thread at the main expense of Scotoni.

PHIL MCLENNAN

AYR

THUNDERER

2.10 Mossie Gold. 2.40 Dante's Inferno. 3.10 Bold Boss. 3.40 Radical Lady. 4.15 The Green Fool. 4.45 Clay County. 5.15 Herbalist.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN STRAIGHT) SIS

2.10 JAMES BARCLAY MEMORIAL TROPHY
(Maiden hurdle: amateurs: £1,892: 2m 6f) (20 runners)

1 P56- ARTIFICER 311 Mrs S Taylor 7-12-0 N Hardman (7)
2 44 BERVIE HOUSE 42 (BF) Mrs M Reveley 5-12-0 M Buckley (5)
3 -U00 BREAK THE HABIT 39 T Gibson 8-12-0 M Coglan (7)
4 0000 DO A RUNNER 26 J Love 6-12-0 S Love (7)
5 0-0 DON'T TELL JUDY 21 A Wight 5-12-0 A Wight (7)
6 3P0P IRON PRINCE 70 A Whillans 7-12-0 R Hale (7)
7 666/ LOOSE FLING 1163 Mrs B Butterworth 8-12-0 Miss S Nichol (7)
8 -500 MODULATOR 11 T Dyer 11-12-0 R Dyer (7)
9 05 MR FIVE WOOD 13 J Maxwell (Ire) 5-12-0 B R Hamilton (7)
10 DUCHESS OF TUBBER R Fisher 5-11-9 A Thornton (5)
11 0/0- HIGHLAND RIVER 357 T Cuthbert 6-11-9 Mrs H Johnston (7)
12 00 JOLI EXCITING 10 J Adam 8-11-9 Mrs B Thomson (7)
13 P005 JUST PRETEND 18 V Thompson 9-11-9 D Webb (7)
14 -000 MISS WAG 42 W Young 6-11-9 M Mulligan (7)
15 0060 MOSSIE GOLD 10 M Naughton 6-11-9 D Parker (7)
16 0-P ROYAL FIFE 10 Mrs B Broad 7-11-9 J Weymes (7)
17 034F STAGSHAW BELLE 21 Mrs S Bradburne 9-11-9 J Bradburne (5)
18 0450 THE TITAN GHOST 21 S Coathup 4-11-4 J Beardsall (7)
19 00 MONTAGNE 21 S Coathup 4-10-13 B Oldman (7)
20 00 PENTLAND DANCER 22 R Lamb 4-10-13 A Manners (7)

7-4 Bervie House, 9-4 Mr Five Wood, 6-1 Mossie Gold, 8-1 The Titan Ghost, 12-1 Stagshaw Belle, 16-1 Duchess Of Tubber, 20-1 others.

2.40 MARCHBURN NOVICES CHASE
(£2,320: 2m) (5)

1 0F11 DANTE'S INFERNO 20 (CD,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 7-12-0 T Reed
2 -482 ALBARI 188 G Richards 5-11-4 M Moloney
3 PF22 HOUGHTON 21 (G,S) M W Easterby 7-11-4 C Grant
4 P8P- OVER THE STYX 413 G Richards 8-11-4 N Doughty
5 40F4 PIT PONY 29 (V,G,S) Miss L Perratt 9-11-4 L O'Hara

5-4 Dante's Inferno, 7-4 Houghton, 7-2 Albari, 12-1 Over The Styx, 20-1 Pit Pony.

3.10 HARCROS SCOTTISH JUVENILE CHAMPIONSHIP NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: 4-Y-O: £1,808: 2m) (6)

1 4P11 BOLD BOSS 14 (D,G,S) G Moore 11-8 C Grant
2 2131 KALKO 8 (D,G) M Hammond 11-8 S Lyons (5)
3 00 MASTER FLASHMAN 22 Mrs S Bradburne 10-12 P Williams (7)
4 00 MONTRAVE 8 P Monteith 10-12 M Moloney
5 5330 STRAW THATCH 8 (B) R Allan 10-12 B Storey
6 3 BASSETJA 10 J Maxwell (Ire) 10-7 K Gaule (7)

1-2 Bold Boss, 9-4 Kalko, 8-1 Bassetja, 16-1 Straw Thatch, 33-1 Montrave, 50-1 Master Flashman.

3.40 ELK HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,916: 3m 1f) (5 runners)

1 13-6 KIRSTY'S BOY 22 (C,F,G,S) Miss L Perratt 10-12-0 L O'Hara
2 6440 RADICAL LADY 32 (B,C,F,G,S) G Moore 9-10-13 J Callaghan
3 3234 WREKIN HILL 129 (BF,G,S) P Cheesbrough 11-10-13 K Johnson
4 -P33 REAL CLASS 84 (F,G,S) G Richards 10-10-13 N Doughty
5 P1F3 FUNNY OLD GAME 28 (C,S) D McCune 6-10-0 B Storey

5-2 Funny Old Game, 3-1 Real Class, 7-2 Radical Lady, 4-1 Wrekin Hill, 5-1 Kirsty's Boy.

4.15 AYRSHIRE YEOMANRY CUP
(Handicap hurdle: £2,092: 2m 4f) (6)

1 1204 BANOUR 105 (F) J Maxwell (Ire) 5-12-0 Mr B R Hamilton (7)
2 1821 DIZZY 8 (C,G,S) P Monteith 5-11-1 A Dobbin (3)
3 2301 THE GREEN FOOL 14 (D,F,S) V Thompson 6-10-7 T Reed
4 1/04 FISTFUL OF BUCKS 11 (C,D,G,S) T Dyer 7-10-0 P Harley
5 0210 LEADING PROSPECT 8 (G) Mrs J Goodfellow 6-10-0 B Storey
6 3453 SET THE STANDARDS 14 (F) A Whillans 5-10-0 M Moloney

7-4 Dizzy, 5-2 The Green Fool, 4-1 Banour, 5-1 Leading Prospect, 10-1 Set The Standards, 16-1 Fistful Of Bucks.

4.45 ARTHUR CHALLENGE CUP
(Handicap chase: £3,020: 2m) (3)

1 2301 CLAY COUNTY 38 (CD,F,G,S) R Allan 8-12-0 B Storey
2 -113 CLEVER FOLLY 17 (D,F,G,S) G Richards 13-11-12 N Doughty
3 -124 MACARTHUR 24 (D,BF,F,G,S) M W Easterby 8-11-5 C Grant

5-4 Clay County, 2-1 Clever Folly, 5-2 Macarthur.

5.15 GRUNWICK STAKES NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,285: 2m) (13)

1 6 COL BUCKMORE 28 J Maxwell (Ire) 5-11-8 Mr B R Hamilton (7)
2 DI THAVED J Haynes 5-11-8 A Dobbin (3)
3 MIGHTY MERC Mrs B Broad 5-11-8 J Weymes (7)
4 0 PIRATE HOOK 22 Mrs J Goodfellow 5-11-8 W Dwan (5)
5 SLAUGHT SON R Fisher 5-11-8 Mr A Thornton (5)
6 KABELIA S Coathup 5-11-3 D J Moffatt (5)
7 0 PAPER'S PET 22 D Nolan 6-11-3 Miss F Barnes (7)
8 2 HERBALIST 22 (BF) C Thornton 4-11-0 S Taylor (7)
9 8 KNOW-NO-NO 18 (BF) M Hammond 4-11-0 D Bentley (5)
10 MIDDLEHAM CASTLE M Johnston 4-11-0 S Lyons (5)
11 SEVEN TOWERS Mrs M Reveley 4-11-0 Mr M Buckley (5)
12 KIRSTY'S PEACH Miss L Perratt 4-10-9 Mr R Hale (7)
13 PARLEBIZ A Wight 4-10-9 Mr A Wight

3-1 Seven Towers, 7-2 Col Buckmore, 4-1 Know-No-No, 9-2 Herbalist, 5-1 Middleham Castle, 12-1 Kirsty's Peach, 16-1 Slaught Son, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 22 winners from 63 runners, 34.9%; C Thornton, 4 from 15, 26.7%; G Richards, 54 from 243, 22.2%; R Allan, 7 from 32, 21.9%; M W Easterby, 4 from 20, 20.0%; G Moore, 22 from 118, 18.6%.

JOCKEYS: Mr M Buckley, 4 winners from 10 rides, 40.0%; N Doughty, 34 from 129, 26.4%; Mr J Bradburne, 7 from 50, 14.0%; B Storey, 22 from 159, 13.8%; P Williams, 4 from 29, 13.8%; C Grant, 13 from 103, 12.6%.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

2.20 Eid. 2.50 Needwood Poppy. 3.20 Meningi. 3.50 Big Diamond. 4.20 Solar Green. 4.50 Star Of Oughterard.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (CHASE COURSE); GOOD, GOOD TO FIRM IN CHUTE (HURDLES)

2.20 ADMIRALTY ARCH JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £1,807: 2m 110yd) (10 runners)

1 1405 SCRUTINEER 14 (D,S) D Nicholson 11-5 W Marston (3)
2 4422 ALICE'S MIRROR 26 (G) T McGovern 11-0 W McFarland
3 PPP ACT OF UNION 15 (B) D Bell 10-12 D Walsh (5)
4 3236 EID 14 M Meade 10-12 J Railton
5 2 ELABJER 9 P Evans 10-12 B Clifford (3)
6 P LAUREL CONNECTION 9 Mrs A Hewitt 10-12 R Bellamy
7 0 OAKLANDS WORD 52 D Williams 10-12 Miss J Gault
8 P ROCK SONG 10 J Mackie 10-12 D Bridgwater
9 04P WAAZA 10 (B) Miss L Siddall 10-12 G McCourt
10 000 BARGA 38 W Clay 10-7 S Smith Eccles

7-4 Scrutineer, 2-1 Eid, 7-2 Elabjer, 5-1 Alice's Mirror, 16-1 Rock Song, 25-1 Waaza, 33-1 Barga, Rock Song, 50-1 Act Of Union, Laurel Connection.

2.50 TOWER BRIDGE SELLING HURDLE
(£1,895: 3m 1f 110yd) (10)

1 212- AUTONOMOUS 506F (F) K Bridgwater 8-11-5 D Bridgwater
2 -0UU QUIET DAWN 99 (G) J King 7-11-0 S Smith Eccles
3 655P GRAIN MERCHANT 65 F Yardley 7-10-12 B Clifford (3)
4 P-P0 SALIC DANCE 9 (V) G Ham 5-10-12 S Mackey
5 5224 VILCOE BAY 10 B McMahon 6-10-12 T Wall
6 24P0 FURRYVALE 64 C Trietline 8-10-7 W Marston (3)
7 R400 LUCKY HARVEST 31 Mrs A Rockitt 6-10-7 Gee Armytage
8 0443 NEEDWOOD POPPY 10 B Morgan 5-10-7 L Harvey
9 2540 NORTHERN OPTIMIST 7 B Llewellyn 5-10-7 Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
10 0/0 SILLY HABIT 12 (V) H Collingridge 7-10-7 V Smith

3-1 Vilcoe Bay, 4-1 Northern Optimist, 9-2 Needwood Poppy, 5-1 Furryvale, 6-1 Autonomous, 10-1 Quiet Dawn, 14-1 Grain Merchant, 20-1 others.

3.20 HORSE GUARDS PARADE HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,364: 3m 1f) (8)

1 -342 SKINNHILL 32 (B,C,F,G,S) T Thomson Jones 9-11-11 S Smith Eccles
2 F206 NATHAN BLAKE 11 (B,F,G) K Bailey 8-11-7 J Railton
3 3442 RED RONDO 29 (C,F,G,S) J Edwards 9-11-7 W Marston (3)
4 -P0P COMEDY ROAD 7 (B,CD,F,G) R Lee 9-11-7 R Greene (3)
5 P/PP WESTERN TRUCE 21 (B,F) J Webber 10-10-12 A Webb
6 UF06 KAMEO STYLE 19 (B,F,G,S) F Jordan 10-10-11 J Lodder
7 5P43 CROSSOFSPANCILHILL 15 (CD,F,G) C Trietline 7-10-10 D Bridgwater
8 0006 MENINGI 30 (F,G,S) K Bishop 12-10-6 D Leahy (5)

7-4 Red Rondo, 5-2 Skinnhill, 9-2 Nathan Blake, 6-1 Kameo Style, 8-1 Crossofspancilhill, 14-1 Comedy Road, 20-1 Meningi, 33-1 Western Truce.

3.50 ALBERT HALL CLAIMING HURDLE
(£1,939: 2m 110yd) (11)

1 5130 EDWARD SEYMOUR 31 (D,S) W Jenks 6-12-0 R Bellamy
2 4418 BAND OF HOPE 15 (D,F,G,S) W Clay 6-11-9 S Smith Eccles
3 /053 TALAB 4 (D,F) R Bennett 8-11-5 W Esterfield
4 /0P0 BIG DIAMOND 43 (B,D,F,G) I Campbell 9-11-2 R Campbell
5 P-0P BOLD SPARK 12 J Bradley 5-11-2 W Marston (3)
6 P138 GLOSSY 21 (D) B McMahon 6-11-2 T Wall
7 -P04 JUST A MEMORY 9 (B,D,F) C Trietline 7-11-2 D Bridgwater
8 1-15 WHAT IF 21 (D,F,G,S) D Brennan 9-11-0 G McCourt
9 242- SIBERIAN BREEZE 402 (D,F) J Glover 5-10-13 S D Williams (3)
10 3451 ALDINGTON PEACH 11 (D,F) P Evans 4-10-9 B Clifford (3)
11 5006 MIDAS WELL 7 G Ham 4-10-5 S Mackey

6-4 What If, 3-1 Big Diamond, 5-1 Band Of Hope, 8-1 Aldington Peach, 10-1 Edward Seymour, 12-1 Siberian Breeze, Talab, 16-1 others.

4.20 CLEOPATRA'S NEEDLE MAIDEN CHASE
(£2,233: 2m) (9)

1 5352 BOBBY SOCKS 9 R Lee 7-11-5 R Greene (3)
2 0P00 COUNTY CONTRACTOR 38 C Popham 6-11-5 S Wynne (3)
3 F04F CRAFTY CHAPLAIN 10 P Bevan 7-11-5 T Wall
4 P445 FINE HARVEST 7 B McMahon 7-11-5 Gary Lyons
5 -F00 HIDDEN PLEASURE 115 S Christian 7-11-5 G McCourt
6 043P PICKETSTONE 50 J Webber 6-11-5 A Webb
7 -063 PROCTORS ROW 9 D McCain 6-11-5 D Walsh (5)
8 /0PU SOLAR GREEN 9 G Ham 8-11-5 S Burrough
9 455F SPINNING STEEL 18 M Meade 8-11-5 J Railton

11-4 Bobby Socks, 4-1 Solar Green, 5-1 Picketstone, 6-1 Crafty Chaplain, Proctors Row, 8-1 Hidden Pleasure, 10-1 Spinning Steel, 14-1 others.

4.50 NELSON'S COLUMN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,796: 2m 7f) (7)

1 0552 STAGE PLAYER 7 (F,G) Miss S Wilton 7-11-10 G McCourt
2 6534 CLASSIC STATEMENT 7 (B,BF,F,S) R Lee 7-11-5 Leanne Eldredge (7)
3 -652 NEEDWOOD SPRITE 19 (V,F,G) B Morgan 7-10-8 L Harvey
4 F826 RUBINS BOY 31 (F) S Sherwood 7-10-5 J Railton
5 UU54 STAR OF OUGHTERARD 22 (B,F) T McGovern 8-10-4 W McFarland
6 3643 CRAZY HORSE DANCER 18 (BF,G) F Jordan 5-10-0 J Lodder
7 40-6 NUT TREE 24 D Wike 8-10-0 R Bellamy

5-1 Stage Player, 4-1 Classic Statement, Needwood Sprite, 5-1 Rubins Boy, Star Of Oughterard, 8-1 Crazy Horse Dancer, 16-1 Nut Tree.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: T Thomson Jones, 3 winners from 7 runners, 42.9%; D Nicholson, 17 from 64, 26.6%; R Lee, 11 from 59, 18.6%; J Edwards, 10 from 57, 17.5%; Miss S Wilton, 9 from 55, 16.4%; B McMahon, 5 from 36, 13.9%.

JOCKEYS: S Smith Eccles, 9 winners from 36 rides, 25.0%; J Railton, 6 from 40, 15.0%; R Bellamy, 4 from 27, 14.8%; W McFarland, 3 from 24, 12.5%. Only qualifiers.

□ Ayr racecourse yesterday signed a sponsorship deal which guarantees £50,000 prize-money for next month's Scottish National. Scottish-based hotel and casino group Stakis plc replace William Hill as sponsors.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

2.25 In Truth. 2.55 Counterbid. 3.25 Johnsted. 3.55 Old Eros. 4.25 Logamimo. 4.55 Razoo.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM PATCHES) SIS

2.25 EGMANTON NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,696: 2m 2f) (6 runners)

1 /540- EVENING SUNSET 535 (B) G Fleming 7-11-2 Mr K Green
2 0620 IN TRUTH 28 J Leigh 5-11-2 P Niven
3 00P SHREDAK'S FLYER 39 D Edmunds 5-11-2 R Davis (5)
4 30-8 TEMPERING 5F D Chapman 7-11-2 R Garritty
5 /U44 TOM TOWLEY 7 A Smith 7-11-2 R J Beggan
6 P/0P BRIGG MELODY 35 J Thorpe 12-10-11 Annette Billany (7)

4-5 Tempering, 11-4 In Truth, 9-2 Tom Towley, 12-1 Evening Sunset, 16-1 Shredak's Flyer, 20-1 Brigg Melody.

2.55 TUXFORD NOVICES CHASE
(£3,512: 3m 110yd) (4)

1 4-42 ACERTAINHIT 147 S Bowring 9-11-4 J A Harris
2 3504 COUNTERBID 15 (F,G) J Edwards 6-11-4 N Williamson
3 1403 DRAGONS DEN 18 (BF,G) S Sherwood 7-11-4 G Upton
4 -40F WARRIORS CODE 3 D Todd 10-11-4 K Jones

11-10 Dragons Den, 6-4 Counterbid, 7-2 Acertainhit, 16-1 Warriors Code.

3.25 FIBRETURF CLAIMING HURDLE
(£3,869: 2m 4f 110yd) (3)

1 4321 JOHNSTED 3 (B,C) W Clay 7-11-3 P Niven
2 P-P6 HELLO SAM 47 (F) J Bennett 10-11-1 D Skyrme
3 4P00 VERY EVIDENT 16 R O'Leary 4-10-8 K Davies (7)

4-6 Johnsted, 7-4 Very Evident, 8-1 Hello Sam.

3.55 ROLLESTON MILL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£7,058: 2m) (5)

1 2331 SRIVIJAYA 16 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-10 R Hodge
2 26-2 OLD EROS 16 (BF,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-1 P Niven
3 2415 SECRET SUMMIT 28 (V,F,S) A Forbes 7-10-13 T Eley (5)
4 1223 NO MORE THE FOOL 30F (G) J Berry 7-10-13 J A Harris
5 5443 CELTIC CATCH 7 (F) J Bosley 7-10-4 M Bosley

7-4 Old Eros, 5-2 Srivijaya, 4-1 No More The Fool, 5-1 Secret Summit, 10-1 Celtic Catch.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Stirk, 3 winners from 4 runners, 75.0%; S Sherwood, 3 from 5, 60.0%; Mrs M Reveley, 13 from 45, 28.9%; J Edwards, 10 from 39, 25.6%; K Bailey, 7 from 34, 20.6%.

JOCKEYS: N Williamson, 7 winners from 16 rides, 43.8%; A Dobney, 3 from 10, 30.0%; P Niven, 14 from 59, 23.7%. (Only qualifiers).

4.25 OSSINGTON HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,792: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 1064 LOGAMIMO 22 (D,F,G,S) J Hetherton 7-12-0 A Larnach (5)
2 P526 GOLDEN FREEZE 15 (D,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 11-11-9 B de Haan
3 1426 MEGA BLUE 39 (G,S) Mrs V Aconley 8-10-8 P Niven
4 3134 SIMPLE PLEASURE 24 (C,D,F,G,S) Mrs M Stirk 8-10-8 A Orkney
5 3UF1 KIND'A SMART 16 (F,G,S) K Morgan 8-10-7 A S Smith
6 4PF4 ON YOUR WAY 14 (D,G,S) J Leigh 11-10-5 S J O'Neill

9-4 Kind'A Smart, 3-1 Logamimo, 7-2 Simple Pleasure, 9-2 Golden Freeze, 6-1 Mega Blue, 12-1 On Your Way.

4.55 MUSKHAM NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,738: 3m 110yd) (6)

1 3P31 EARLHAM 10 (CD) D Brennan 7-11-4 M Brennan
2 6241 KHOJOHN 24 (CD) Mrs V Aconley 5-11-4 C Woodall (7)
3 /PPP MAUREEN'S FANCY 14 J Parkes 6-10-12 N Smith
4 0-00 RAZOO 92 J Edwards 6-10-12 N Williamson
5 /P00 RIDDLEMEROO 21 A Forbes 6-10-12 T Eley (5)
6 0P52 TARESH 7 K Bailey 6-10-7 J McCarthy (5)

6-4 Earlham, 9-4 Khojohn, 7-2 Taresh, 6-1 Razoo, 25-1 Riddlemeroo, 50-1 Maureen's Fancy.

Linkside books place in Aintree hurdle

LINKSIDE is bound for Aintree next month after a one and a half lengths victory in the Lagg Maiden Hurdle at Ayr yesterday. The 5-4 on favourite, Linkside had been due to contest a similar event at Bangor on Wednesday but was withdrawn because trainer Dudley Moffatt felt the ground was too firm.

"It was touch and go whether I ran him today because of his past leg problems, but after walking the track I decided the going was okay," explained Cartmel-based Moffatt, saddling his eighth winner of the season. "His owner comes from Liverpool and is keen to run Linkside in one of the long-distance novice hurdles at Aintree," he added.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Plumpton, Taunton, Catterick.
TUESDAY: Cheltenham, Sedgefield, Lingfield Park (All-weather).
WEDNESDAY: Cheltenham, Huntingdon, Newton Abbot.
THURSDAY: Cheltenham, Hexham, Southwell (AW).
FRIDAY: Fakenham, Wolverhampton, Lingfield Park.
SATURDAY: Chepstow, Newcastle, Lingfield Park, Uttoxeter, Towcester.
(Flat meeting in bold)

[redacted]

Sandown Park

Going: firm

2.00 (2m 6f hdle) 1, HURRICANE BLAKE (J Railton, 15-8 fav); 2, Cool Clown (P Scudamore, 9-4); 3, Tudor Fable (R Dunwoody, 11-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 The Glow (4th), 14 Mr Invader (4th), 100 Balmy Breeze (5th), 150 Antiguan Sol (pu). 7 ran. ¾l, 20l, 10l, dist. D Grissell at Robertsbridge. Tote: £3.00; £1.50, £1.90. DF: £3.20. CSF: £5.92.

2.35 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, CASTING TIME (J Frost, 33-1); 2, Some Day Soon (G Bradley, 16-1); 3, Champagne Lad (P Hide, 5-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 3 Richville (4th), 5 South Harvest, 8 Social Climber (6th), 100 Denberdar (5th). 7 ran. 12l, 6l, sh hd, 2l, 15l. D Barons at Kingsbridge. Tote: £27.80; £5.20, £2.30. DF: £99.00. CSF: £355.69.

3.05 (3m 110yd ch) 1, ON THE OTHER HAND (Capt A Ogden, 12-1); 2, Norman Conqueror (Major O Ellwood, 5-2 jt-fav); 3, Calabrese (Major M Watson, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 5-2 jt-fav Travelling Wrong (4th), 11-2 Fifth Amendment, 14 OK Corral (6th), 16 Folk Dance, 25 North Wold Park, 33 Friendly Henry (5th), 50 Blue Dart, 66 Knox's Corner (pu), Lothian Sultan, Watershed Knight, 100 Montgomery, Sheer Steel, 150 Comedy Basin (ur), Director Please, Grand Inquisitor. 18 ran. Nk, 6l, 5l, 3l, nk. G Richards at Greystoke. Tote: £13.30; £3.30, £1.90, £2.90. DF: £32.20. CSF £39.65.

3.40 (2m 6f hdle) 1, MARLIN DANCER (G McCourt, 10-11 fav); 2, Sea Buck (R Davis, 15-8); 3, Fierce (R Dunwoody, 9-2). 3 ran. Hd, 3l. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £1.90. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.60.

4.10 (3m 110yd ch) 1, GAELIC CHERRY (Mr C Ward Thomas, 3-1); 2, Knocklofty Castle (Mr J Trice-Rolph, 11-10 fav); 3, Bob Tisdall (Capt A Ogden, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Deer Crest (pu), Elvercone (4th), 40 Coquet Island (f). 6 ran. 5l, 10l, dist. D Fletcher at Cirencester. Tote: £3.40; £1.70, £1.50. DF: £2.80. CSF: £6.28.

4.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, SECOND CALL (M Perrett, 9-8); 2, Aedean (R J Beggan, 7-2); 3, Fly For Gold (J Osborne, 15-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Frankus (4th), 16 Shirl (5th). 5 ran. 12l, 5l, 12l, ½l. G Harwood at Pulborough. Tote: £2.80; £1.80, £1.80. DF: £5.80. CSF: £9.19.

Jackpot: £4,555.00 (0.1 winning tickets). Pool of £5,539.97 carried forward to Sandown today.

Placepot: £357.50.

Ayr

Going: good (good to firm in straight)

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Linkside (D J Moffatt, 4-5 fav); Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Great Heights (4-1); 3, Legion Of Honour (16-1). 18 ran. 1½l, 3l. D Moffatt. Tote: £1.90; £1.30, £3.10, £1.90. DF: £14.70. CSF: £4.75.

2.40 (3m 1f ch) 1, Tartan Tyrant (N Doughty, 1-3 fav); 2, Forth And Tay (100-1); 3, Run 'N' Games (12-1). 8 ran. 3l, 1½l. G Richards. Tote: £1.50; £1.50, £46.00, £1.10. DF: £42.40. CSF: £25.28.

3.10 (3m 4f ch) 1, Wind Force (N Doughty, 7-4 fav); 2, Strong Approach (5-2); 3, Stapleaster (9-2). 4 ran. 3l, dist. G Richards. Tote: £2.10. DF: £3.80. CSF: £5.85.

3.45 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Celtic Breeze (A Dobbin, 9-1); 2, Village Reinder (Evens fav); 3, Tallywagger (2-1). 6 ran. 1l, ¾l. M Naughton. Tote: £7.00; £2.30, £1.30. DF: £3.40. CSF: £16.60.

4.15 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, Polliorig (Mr M Buckley, 7-4 fav); 2, Juniors Choice (10-1); 3, Royal Jester (8-1). 9 ran. 3½l, 8l. W Hamilton. Tote: £2.10; £1.30, £4.70, £2.30. DF: £27.00. CSF: £17.40.

4.45 (2m hdle) 1, Family Line (F Perratt, 9-2); 2, Flowing River (3-1 jt-fav); 3, One For The Pot (5-1). Moment Of Truth 3-1 jt-fav. 8 ran. 2l, 5l. Miss L Perratt. Tote: £5.40; £2.30, £2.70. DF: £6.20. CSF: £18.39.

Placepot: £32.70.

Market Rasen

Going: good (hurdles good to firm patches)

2.20 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1, Bill And Coup (J McCarthy, 9-1); 2, Rupples (15-2); 3, Just Frankie (11-4 fav). 7 ran. Nk, 10l. K Morgan. Tote: £9.80; £2.70, £1.80. DF: £19.00. CSF: £60.76.

2.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Charlycia (A Orkney, 5-1); 2, Rhoman Coin (6-1); 3, Hanbury Hall (10-1). Najeb 2-1 fav. 12 ran. NR: Trentside Mist, Sweet Revival. 12l, 6l. T Carr. Tote: £5.50; £1.40, £1.70, £2.60. DF: £7.60. CSF: £28.87.

3.25 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Dari Sound (M Dwyer, 7-4 fav); 2, Hudson Bay Trader (11-2); 3, My Swan Song (9-2). 9 ran. NR: Caesari. 1½l, 5l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £2.70; £1.50, £1.60, £2.50. DF: £5.30. CSF: £11.55. Tricast: £34.37.

3.55 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Marsh's Law (M Brennan, 8-1); 2, Mistic Glen (14-1); 3, Grey Commander (12-1). Scalp 'Em 5-4 fav. 12 ran. NR: Bold Street Blues. 2½l, ¾l. O Brennan. Tote: £11.70; £2.50, £4.50, £2.00. DF: £178.60. CSF: £120.90.

4.25 (3m 1f ch) 1, Young Miner (G Upton, 5-1); 2, Gute Nacht (50-1); 3, Rosehip (33-1). The Laughing Lord 7-4 fav. 13 ran. 20l, 2½l. Mrs T McInnes Skinner. Tote: £5.80; £1.70, £13.70, £18.00. DF: £230.80. CSF: £174.67.

4.55 (3m 1f ch) 1, Lord Pума (Mr M Sowersby, 10-1); 2, Final Chant (4-6 fav); 3, No Escort (7-4). 6 ran. 15l, 20l. M Sowersby. Tote: £8.70; £2.30, £1.20. DF: £6.20. CSF: £18.69.

5.25 (1m 5f 110yd flat) 1, Hold Your Hat On (G Taylor, 3-1); 2, Nitre (13-2); 3, Bildeston (20-1). Son Of Iris 5-2 fav. 20 ran. 1½l, 3l. C Thornton. Tote: £5.20; £2.30, £3.60, £7.30. DF: £17.00. CSF: £25.52.

Placepot: £383.10.

Worcester

2.30 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Warner Forpleasure (Peter Hobbs, 13-2); 2, OK Records (8-11 fav); 3, Balled Ruler (11-1). 11 ran. 5l, 10l. P Hobbs. Tote: £7.30; £1.80, £1.40, £2.70. DF: £5.80. CSF: £11.78.

3.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Nevada Gold (D Gallagher, 1-2 fav); 2, Old Brig (2-1); 3, Singing Spear (20-1). 4 ran. Nk, dist. F Yardley. Tote: £1.60. DF: £1.70. CSF: £1.78.

3.30 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Sea Patrol (J Lower, 2-7 fav); 2, Sterling Buck (100-30); 3, Launch Pad (200-1). 4 ran. 6l, dist. M Pipe. Tote: £1.20. DF: £1.40. CSF: £1.35.

4.00 (2m ch) 1, Treaklder (Peter Hobbs, 11-4); 2, Tinas Lad (5-1); 3, Greenheart (9-1). Trinlough 10-11 fav (ur). 4 ran. ¾l, dist. M W Easterby. Tote: £6.30. DF: £7.70. CSF: £12.59.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Power Happy (D Gallagher, 10-1); 2, Five Stars (100-1); 3, Shamba (4-7 fav). 6 ran. 6l, nk. F Yardley. Tote: £9.60; £1.70, £7.60. DF: £74.10. CSF: £195.18.

5.00 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Donna's Token (Mr J L Llewellyn, 15-2); 2, Mountain Retreat (15-8); 3, Asenger (10-1). On The Line 4-5 fav. 5 ran. NR: Olveston. 2½l, 10l. R Brown. Tote: £7.30; £4.00, £4.00. DF: £11.40. CSF: £21.26.

Placepot: £485.50.

Royal colours lowered

THE Queen Mother's Norman Conqueror failed gallantly by a neck to carry the royal colours to a fifth victory in the last ten years in the Horse and Hound Military Gold Cup at Sandown Park yesterday.

Norman Conqueror dominated the final circuit but was outpointed on the run-in by the Gordon Richards-trained Grand National entry On The Other Hand.

Robert Ogden, a Wetherby businessman, bought the winner from Irish trainer John Mulhern last month for his son, Adam, to ride in yesterday's race.

"John has always thought of On The Other Hand as an ideal sort for the Grand National," Ogden said. "So I promised him I would let the horse take his chance at Aintree."

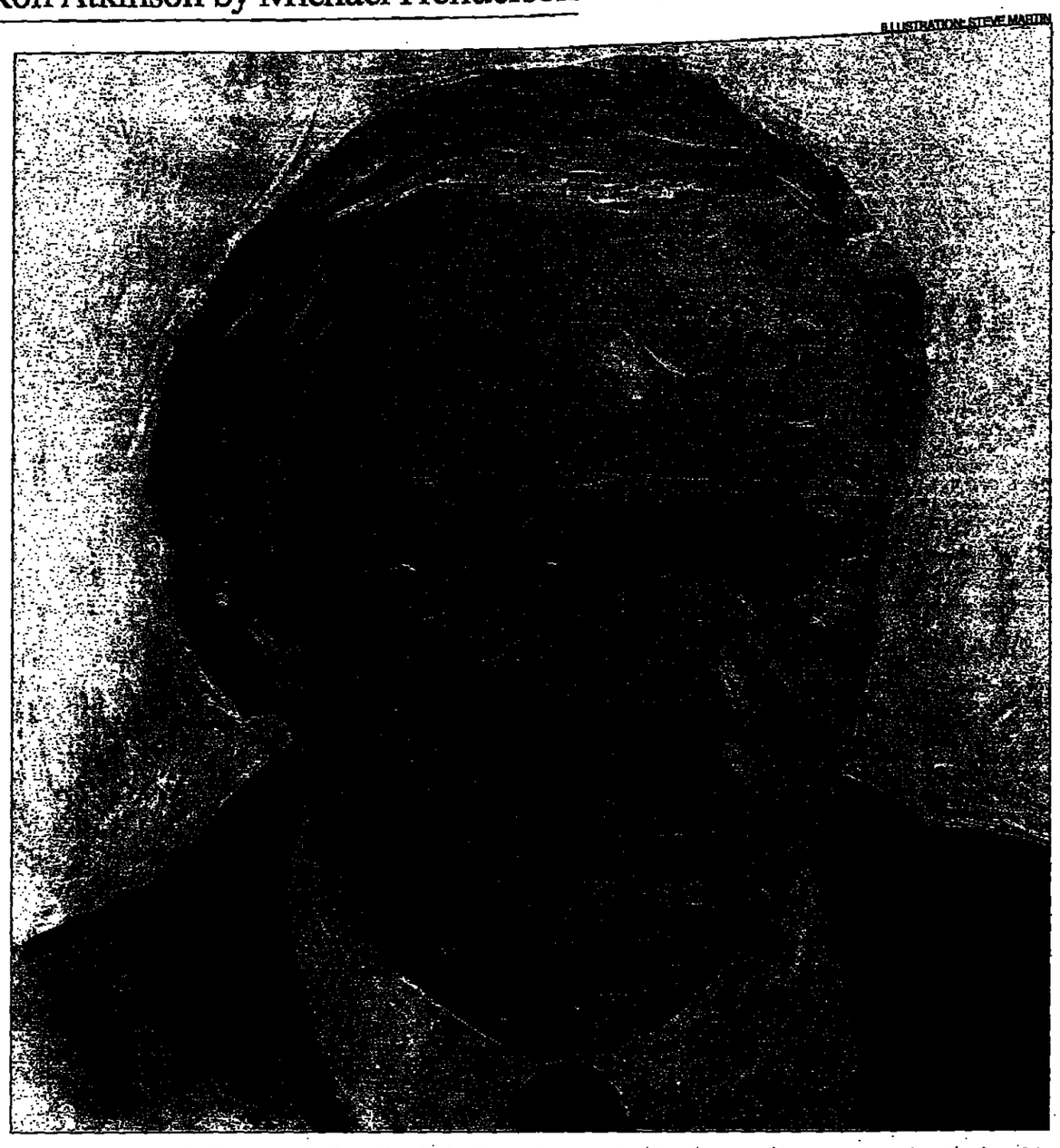
RAPID RACELINE
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SANDOWN PK	101	201	301
CHEPSTOW	102	202	302
SOUTHWELL	103	203	303
AYR	104	204	304
W'HAMPTON	105	205	305
NAAS	120	220	320
GREYHOUNDS	122	222	322

Saturday portrait: Ron Atkinson by Michael Henderson

Champagne tastes disguise hunger for glittering prizes

ILLUSTRATION: STEVE MARTIN



It is often said that a man is never more disappointed than when he has fulfilled his greatest desire. If that is true, Ron Atkinson may feel a very unfulfilled football manager if, come May, Aston Villa breast the championship tape ahead of Manchester United. There will not be much left for him to do.

Should Villa achieve their eighth league title — it would be only their second since 1910 — Atkinson will complete the full set of domestic trophies. Uniquely, he will have done it with three different clubs, which would put him full square in any managerial hall of fame.

Atkinson, who takes second-placed Villa to Old Trafford tomorrow for the game of the season against the team above them on goal difference, will celebrate his 54th birthday on Monday with a pretty good idea of what he must do to land that third, and most rewarding, prize. Depriving Manchester United, who sacked him in November 1986, lends piquancy to tomorrow's occasion.

Atkinson is the very model of a modern football manager. He needs only one more managerial life to match a cat's nine but one suspects that he will see out his days at the club that sacked him as an apprentice. His subsequent career has not lacked incident. Winning the FA Cup twice with United and the League Cup with Sheffield Wednesday are the most visible landmarks of his 19 years as a manager.

Despite his success, it could be argued that he has been undervalued. His conspicuous public image is deceptive because he is at heart a true football man, happiest among his players, although a counter argument runs that someone who gargles champagne so indiscriminately deserves all the opprobrium he gets.

If the teams he manages testify to his ambitions, then he is healthily in credit. United played some splendid stuff in his five seasons there and, although he took Wednesday down in 1990, they returned immediately as holders of the League Cup — after beating United.

Not for Atkinson the philosophical approach. He would laugh at the idea of writing a book, as Malcolm Allison once did, called *Soccer for Thinkers*. Nor would he bellow "apply the principles!" from the dugout as Ron Greenwood did at Anfield. "We beat West Ham by four goals as usual," Bill Shankly said later.

Another of Shankly's *bons mots* provides the most telling clue to Atkinson's success in management: "Me having no education, I had to use my brains". Atkinson's teams are fluent but also practical; they entertain, though not with reckless extravagance, and tend to win the occasional pot. Or, as he once put it: "You can't be fanny merchants."

He claims to have only one maxim — "I tell my players 'Don't bore me' " — which would not exactly make La Rochefoucauld envious. Villa have been anything but boring this season. In recent weeks, even the suspicious Birmingham public have picked up the beat, assisted by a cut-price scheme that led to a thousand supporters being locked out of the ground before the goalless draw with Tottenham Hotspur on Wednesday.

> His conspicuous public image is deceptive because, at heart, he is a true football man

When Villa finished second in 1990, the team Graham Taylor assembled was on the functional side of pretty. When Atkinson took over, following the one-year interregnum of Jozef Venglos, he prepared the ground for transformation by cashing in his chips: in this case, selling David Platt to Bari for £5.5 million.

If the transfer was not universally popular, there are no grumblers now. The acquisition of Dalian Atkinson, Garry Parker, Earl Barrett, Ray Houghton and, crucially, Dean Saunders, for £2.25 million, has enabled the team to prosper under Atkinson's sympathetic eye.

Chasing championships is a long way from Kettering, where Atkinson cut his managerial teeth after a playing career at Oxford United. They were plain Headington United of the Southern League when he joined them in 1959. As captain, he led them to the sixth round of the FA Cup five years later — they were the first fourth division club to reach the quarter-finals — and helped them win the third division championship in 1968.

His grounding in management calls to mind Monty Python's four Yorkshiremen sketch — "And you think *you* had it hard". From Kettering, whom he took to within one vote of Football League membership in 1973, he went to Cambridge United, who were bottom of the fourth division on his arrival in November 1974.

When he left them four years later, they were on the brink of the second division and he was able to tell anyone who would pardon his indulgence: "I've graduated from both Oxford and Cambridge."

It was at The Hawthorns, where he inherited a clever West Bromwich Albion team from John Giles, that he established his name. In 1979, the Albion side of Cunningham and Regis, Johnston and Wile, and both Browns, finished a creditable third, losing their way after being beaten on a heavy pitch at Liverpool in February.

West Bromwich promised more than they delivered but Atkinson made a sufficiently good impression there to take over at Old Trafford in the summer of 1981. It is peculiar to think now that men such as Bobby Robson, Ron Saunders and Lawrie McMenemy turned United down after Dave Sexton's dismissal.

Atkinson's departure was painful because he should have brought them the championship the previous season. United began the 1985 campaign with ten straight wins yet finished fourth as Liverpool, in their first season under Kenny Dalglish, completed the double.

Atkinson could not avoid blame. All winter long there had been talk of selling Mark Hughes to Barcelona, where he went as soon as the title was lost, leaving some grumpy supporters wondering why so big a club should have to sell its best players.

It is not the only blemish on Atkinson's curriculum vitae. Twice he left West Bromwich, the second time for Atlético Madrid, whose president, Jesus Gil, sacked him 94 days later. Then, having found his seat in Sheffield, he walked out of Hillsborough to join Villa in June 1991 a week after saying he would be "barmy" to leave.

"The fact is," he explained, "I was an apprentice at Villa, I watched all my early football there and I have always had a gut feeling that one day I would be the manager here." Two years on, Villa fans can thank him for providing the best football they have seen since the championship year of 1981 and the European Cup success that followed.

Never a man to feel uncomfortable with media demands, Atkinson was unhappy to read last week that he had offered Graeme Souness players in exchange for John Barnes. The truth is, Barnes in his present mood would find no favour at Villa Park.

Atkinson is in the prime of his managerial life. Even if Villa win the championship, there is work to be done. His side is still developing, and Europe, where he sought to make a mark and failed, will hold a fresh challenge.

There has always been dishonesty in professional sport. At least Atkinson is frank about it. "Loyalty is just a matter of being professional," he has said. "I always say that whichever club I am at is the best in the world." To be the best in England would be good enough.

Hill left on learning curve by mastery of Prost and Senna

FROM OLIVER HOLT IN JOHANNESBURG

ALAIN Prost and Ayrton Senna left Damon Hill, the driver carrying the burden of British Formula One expectations, trailing in their wake yesterday as they renewed an old and bitter rivalry in the first qualifying practice for the South African grand prix tomorrow.

Hill performed creditably enough during his first competitive drive in a Williams-Renault but Prost and Senna appeared to be conducting their own private contest as they constantly bettered each other's times. The Brazilian headed the morning's free practice session but Prost claimed the provisional pole position by two tenths of a second when he recorded the fastest lap, 1 min 16.804sec, in the afternoon qualifying contest.

Hill finished fourth, almost a second off the pace, but he was plagued by problems with the car's active suspension. Frank Williams said Hill was "super, absolutely brilliant" and Prost also praised the tactics of his team-mate. Nonetheless, Senna's performance in the new McLaren, about which there has been so much negative speculation, and Schumacher's continuing improvement suggest that Williams may not exercise the same overwhelming superiority this year.

The relationship between Prost and Senna appears to have mellowed a little since the histrionics of Suzuka in 1990, when Senna shunted Prost out of the Japanese grand prix at the first corner. Prost's sabbatical year may have eased the tension and, after yesterday's duel, the Frenchman even found it in his heart to extend a cautious welcome to the driver whose place in the Kyalami race was only confirmed last week and whose participation in the championship beyond South Africa is still in doubt.

"It is good for the sport to have Senna competing," Prost said. "I am not surprised to see that he did well. It is a track that suits his style and we have to be very careful about McLaren with the way that their car is performing.



Brundle: eighth place



Schumacher: improving

"I am quite happy with what we have achieved today. I was trying to concentrate on the job and to learn the track this morning. That meant perhaps I held back a little. The track was very slippery and quite difficult."

Despite his provisional place on the front row of the grid, Senna was cautious about his prospects for the race weekend ahead. Still dogged by questions about his future, after a refusal to confirm his place with McLaren after this race, he said he had "enough headaches just thinking about today, tomorrow and Sunday to worry about the rest of the season".

He added: "I was pleased with what we did today, considering all the systems are not really working properly yet. We have to accept the fact that the car is too new for us and we do not have the continuity that Williams have.

"Their confidence must be very high. It is only normal that they are ahead and I would be surprised if it was otherwise. I think it will be very difficult for me to overhaul Prost tomorrow because the Williams is that bit faster than us."

Yesterday, as the distant tower blocks of Johannesburg, some 30 kilometres away from the track, disappeared in a haze of heat, the drivers struggled to cope with the slippery conditions caused by the effect on the track of temperatures in the 80s. Martin Brundle ran into a gravel track when the throttle on his Ligier-Renault jammed open in the morning session and he was soon followed by Comas, Barbazza and De Cesaris.

Hill spun, too, but was able to continue lapping and pressure Schumacher for provisional third place. Hill, who had a question mark painted on the famous blue helmet worn by his father to advertise a new Williams sponsorship, had said on Thursday that he expected to be a little slow yesterday while he "played himself in" on a circuit on which he has no experience.

He is well seasoned in testing for Williams but has little practice in the art of negotiating "traffic". That skill is becoming more important, even in qualifying, as time restrictions force more cars on to the track at any given time. As the weekend progresses, therefore, he should hone his competitiveness.

"It's a good start," Hill said, "but I would like to have been higher up than that. I had quite a few problems this morning with the active suspension system and it happened again in the afternoon. I suppose I am reasonably satisfied but I would like to see us both in the front row tomorrow. It is difficult to overtake here, so that will be important.

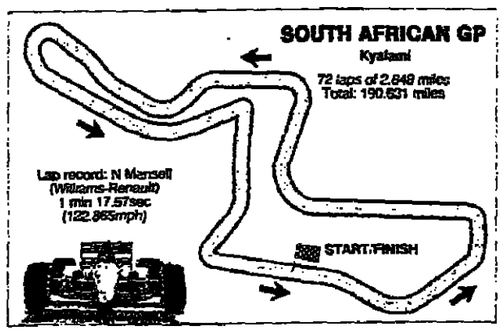
"I spun when I did because I was pushing too hard. The track is not that difficult to learn and it is getting quicker all the time. It is going to be a lot quicker tomorrow."

If Hill was content with his performance, Johnny Herbert, another Briton tipped to challenge strongly this season, said he was "desperately disappointed" with thirteenth place on the provisional grid.

Herbert said the Lotus Ford, which had begun to perform well in testing at the Snetterton race track in Norfolk, had lost a lot of straight-line speed and was being embarrassed by the McLarens of Senna and Michael Andretti, which are powered by the same engines.

Derek Warwick had a disappointing day, too, finishing twentieth in his Footwork but Mark Blundell was an encouraging eleventh in his Ligier. His team-mate, Brundle, was eighth, one above Riccardo Patrese, the Italian who replaced him in the Benetton team during the winter.

LEADING PRACTICE TIMES: 1, A Prost (Fr), McLaren, 1min 16.804sec (avg speed 159.726kph); 2, A Senna (Br), McLaren, 1.17.152; 3, M Schumacher (Ger), Benetton, 1.17.507; 4, D Hill (GB), Williams, 1.17.732; 5, J Alesi (Fr), Ferrari, 1.18.775; 6, M Andretti (US), McLaren, 1.18.903; 7, J Lehto (Fin), Sauber, 1.19.120; 8, M Brundle (GB), Ligier, 1.19.138; 9, R Patrese (It), Benetton, 1.19.341; 10, P Alliot (Fr), Larrousse, 1.19.356; 11, M Blundell (GB), Ligier, 1.19.668; 12, C Fittipaldi (Br), Minardi, 1.19.825; 13, J Herbert (GB), Lotus, 1.19.909; 14, G Berger (Austria), Ferrari, 1.20.066; 15, R Barrichello (Br), Jordan, 1.20.118; 16, A Zanardi (It), Lotus, 1.20.156; 17, K Wendlinger (Austria), Sauber, 1.20.365; 18, U Katayama (Japan), Tyrrell, 1.20.401; 19, A de Cesaris (It), Tyrrell, 1.20.721; 20, D Warwick (GB), Footwork, 1.20.821; 21, I Capelli (It), Jordan, 1.20.847; 22, F Barbazza (It), Minardi, 1.20.994; 23, E Comas (Fr), Larrousse, 1.21.100; 24, A Suzuki (Japan), Footwork, 1.21.342; 25, M Alboreto (It), Lola, 1.22.343; 26, L Badoer (It), Lola, 1.24.727



Ipswich thrive on keeping control

BY ALEX RAMSAY

THE destination of the women's national hockey league title is still undecided. Ipswich, Hightown and Slough remain in contention as they go into their final matches tomorrow while their respective opponents — Wimbledon, Doncaster and Pickwick — nervously eye relegation. Victory is vital for all six teams.

If Ipswich win at Tuddenham Road, it will be a unique occasion for their Great Britain Olympic goalkeeper, Jo Thompson, as she will become the only player to have won four championship medals. Last season, she left Slough, the champions on three occasions, and moved to Suffolk. It is no coincidence that the Slough defence has crumbled as Ipswich have found new strength.

Thompson is an imposing figure in her armour, looking far bigger than her 5ft 6in frame, and is known for her intimidating tactics.

"You can really play on it with some opposing forwards," she said. "If they know you're going to go in hard, they will back off. If you look the part and look confident, you can call their bluff."

At 27, and with 40 international caps, Thompson has avoided serious injury by being one step ahead of the game. Concentration has established her as the best goalkeeper in the country and, by keeping her defenders alert, she is never off guard. "That's what makes me look faster than I am," she said. "It's the thinking speed; it comes from experience."

Against Wimbledon, Thompson will be happy to have a quiet day but will not relax until the final whistle.

Payne prepared for concentrated effort

FROM MEL WEBB IN SANTA PONSA, MAJORCA

JIM Payne, whose fortunes in little more than a week have swung back and forth more regularly than a fiddler's elbow, was on a high again yesterday, his 66 in the second round of the Balearic Open putting him in a lofty position on the leaderboard.

Payne, who, with Joakim Haeggman, of Sweden, and Ian Palmer, of South Africa, is on 139, five under par, a shot behind the leader, Steen Tinning, of Denmark, experienced the good times and the bad in the space of four days in the Mediterranean Open at El Saler last week.

After two rounds, he led the tournament by three shots, then a calamitous 78 in the third put him miles out of contention. Finally, to leave him even more confused, he had a 69 in the final round, finished eighth and was left to reflect on the vagaries of a tournament professional's life.

Payne, a quietly confident 22-year-old from the flatlands of Lincolnshire and last season's rookie of the year, reckons that he learned a lot from his experience at El Saler.

"Last week, I spent too much time looking at the leaderboards and not enough time thinking about my own game," he said. "It's quite easy to let your mind wander when you're in that sort of situation. You tend to forget that you're only halfway through the tournament, and let your concentration slip.

"Tomorrow will be quite different. For one thing, I'm not three strokes in the lead, and last week has also taught me that I must try to keep going forward and forget about everybody else."

Payne, who had a 73 in the first round here, was aiming no higher than to make the cut when he set off from the 10th tee. Before long, a hot wedge and an even hotter putter made those ambitions look modest indeed.

He chipped to 12 feet on the 13th and made the putt for a birdie, then chipped in from off the green on the next for another. A 15-foot putt on the 17th saved another shot, and was followed by his only blemish, missing the fairway on both his drive and his second shot, then chipping and taking two putts from 20 feet to drop a shot and reach the turn in 34.

If nothing else, the bogey put his mind back on the job, and he came back in 32, sinking two 20-foot putts, one from 15 feet and another from eight feet. It was sound, clinically efficient golf; if he maintains this sort of form over the next two days, he could well be the man to beat.

Tinning, meanwhile, was collecting five birdies and two bogeys in his second 69 of the tournament. He attributed his improved form to a more relaxed attitude, and will, he says, be relaxing even more today. Payne, meanwhile, will be concentrating like fury; the smart money, it is fair to say, is going on the concentration method.

☐ Cliff Weight and Richard Sanders resume hostilities in the final of the President's Putter at Rye this morning, having striven unsuccessfully against storm-force winds in January. They survived only five holes last time, with figures which approached par in putts alone before Peter Cooper, captain of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society, agreed with Weight, its secretary, to call a merciful halt. Sanders, still up at Oxford, will hope to emulate Weight's achievement of winning the tournament as an undergraduate (from Cambridge), in 1975.

GB and Ireland unless stated
138: S Tinning (Den), 69, 69. 139: J Payne, 73, 66; J Haeggman (Swe), 72, 67; I Palmer (SA), 71, 68. 140: R Rafferty, 70, 70; A Gilmer (Swe), 71, 69; S McAllister, 70, 70; G J Turner (NZ), 70, 70. 141: S Richardson, 72, 69; O Karlsson (Swe), 73, 68; F Nobilo (NZ), 72, 69. 142: M Bescanceney (Fr), 74, 68; M Guzman (Arg), 71, 71; R Chapman, 72, 70; E Romero (Arg), 71, 71; F Lindgren (Swe), 70, 72; D Cooper, 70, 72; J M Olazabal (Sp), 71, 71; J Parnevik (Swe), 70, 72; J Spence, 71, 71.

Mize copes best with blustery conditions

THE wind started swirling across the course at Weston Hills Country Club here in Fort Lauderdale yesterday, a foretaste of the hurricane-force gusts forecast for the weekend in Florida and a real problem for the players in the second round of the Honda Classic (Patricia Davies writes).

Fred Couples led after a first round of 64, eight under par, but he still had 18 holes to play when Larry Mize, also eight under, was recounting details of the 67 that gave him a 36-hole total of 136.

David Frost, of South Africa, was on 137, seven under, with Craig Parry, of Australia, six under after a 71 that included dropped shots at his last two holes.

Mize, who won in Tucson a few weeks ago, his first victory in the States since the Masters in 1987, did not drop a shot and had only 28 putts on a day when a lot of the pin positions were tantalisingly close to water.

He single-putted the first six holes of his second nine, the first three for birdies, the others to save par and went to lunch a happy man. Parry was not quite so happy, having had a share of the lead with two holes to play. However, he nearly pulled his four-iron second shot into the water at the eighth, took two chips to climb the bank to the green and holed from five feet for a bogey five. At the ninth, he three-putted from 15 feet above the hole.

It was a relief for Parry to be back on a golf course after spending the last couple of weeks shopping for the new house he and his wife, Jenny, have bought in Orlando. He has been working on his swing with David Leadbetter for the last few months and feels his swing and his ball striking have improved enormously.

Couples was one of the late starters, along with the British duo of Sandy Lyle and Nick Faldo, on 71 and 69 respectively.

EARLY LEADING SECOND-ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 136: L Mize, 68, 67. 137: D Frost (SA), 69, 68. 138: C Parry (Aus), 67, 71. 139: J Inman, 70, 69; J Sindelar, 69, 70. 140: L Ringer, 72, 68; J McGovern, 71, 69; R Maciasz, 71, 69. 141: M Smith, 69, 72; M Standly, 70, 71; D Hart, 69, 72.

Selectors make six changes for five nations' championship finale in Paris

Moon rises to capture critical role for Wales

By Gerald Davies

IN RESPONSE to their defeat by Ireland, Wales have made six changes, with one positional variation, in their rugby union team to play France in the final five nations' championship match next week. In the back division, out go Mike Rayer, Mike Hall and, the most experienced of all with 46 caps, Robert Jones, to be replaced by Tony Clement, Nigel Davies and Rupert Moon, at full back, centre and scrum half respectively.

In the pack, Nigel Meek (hooker), Tony Copsey (lock) and Stuart Davies (No. 8) make way for Andrew Lamerton, Phil Davies and,

To play France on March 20

A Clement (Swansea); I C Evans (Llanelli, captain), N G Davies (Llanelli), I S Gibbs (Swansea), N Walker (Cardiff); N R Jenkins (Pontypridd), R H St J B Moon (Llanelli); A L Evans (Llanelli), A Lamerton (Llanelli), H Williams-Jones (South Wales Police), M A Perego (Llanelli), P T Davies (Llanelli), G O Llewellyn (Neath), R E Webster (Swansea), E W Lewis (Llanelli).

Replacements: R N Jones (Swansea), M A Rayer (Cardiff), A Davies (Cardiff), N Meek (Pontypool), J D Davies (Neath), P Arnold (Swansea).

with Emyr Lewis moving to the middle of the back row, Mark Perego, who will play on the flank in Paris. After winning 13 caps at flanker, Lewis will play his first international match at No. 8. Moon and Lamerton are the new caps and complete a contingent of eight Llanelli players in the team.

Lamerton, an energetic player who enjoys the open spaces as much as the darker corners of his trade, joined the club after a spell with Neath and played against Wayne Shelford's All Blacks in 1989 and, earlier this season, in Llanelli's victory against Australia. He played for the Welsh schools and youth teams, in 1988, and twice for the national under-21 side. He has been on the replacements' bench during the last two years.

In case it might be seen to be carrying things a little too far and have two Englishmen appear in a Welsh jersey at the same time, Rupert Moon will play in the absence, after eight consecutive appearances, of his compatriate, Tony Copsey. After having played at every level, bar the senior one, for England, Moon, from Walsall, opted for Wales two years ago and captained the national B team, and Llanelli, against the touring Australians last autumn.

Next Saturday sees the return, too, of Phil Davies, who will make his 33rd appearance since 1985. He last played at No. 8 against Australia in the 1991 World Cup. Since then, he has played at lock, but his recall means that Gareth Llewellyn, who has hitherto jumped at the front for Wales, will move to the middle of the lineout. Davies's selection comes from outside the national squad.

The dropping of Rayer from full back and what has come to be seen as stubborn perseverance with Neil Jenkins at stand-off half have caused the most fuss. Rayer is seen as one of the very few who has played to form this season, but is in a position where Tony Clement has offered genuine opposition. In attack, the Swansea player offers more, which may be advantageous with the inclusion of Nigel Davies, a good passer and, rare in Welsh rugby, a playmaker in midfield. Jenkins is a good kicker who, it is argued, needs to recapture his consistency.

"Minimum change is better for a team, but after the disappointment of the last two matches, the time had come to consider other players," Alan Davies, the Wales coach, said.

The natural time to consider readjusting the side would have been at the end of the season, but failing to win at home against Ireland accelerated the process. Davies and his manager, Bob Norster, have shown commendable loyalty to their team, but they have not seen that loyalty reciprocated with a commensurate level of performance. In the last two seasons, the Welsh have used only 22 players. This compares with a period of 19 matches between 1988 and 1991 when 63 players pulled on the red jersey.

In trepidation of Paris, Wales may find some sort of comfort in the knowledge that the last time they beat France at Parc de Princes was in 1975 . . . with six new caps.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Moon shadowed: the new Wales scrum half, left, in conflict with Jones, whom he replaced

Chance to grasp lion's share of honours



Rob Andrew, the deposed England stand-off half, reflects on the dual challenge facing him late in the season after a tumultuous week

Harold Wilson said that a week is a long time in politics. The last seven days have been quite a period in the life of my rugby career and, at Bath today, the week will reach a climax with the most important English club match of the season.

Last Saturday, I endured sitting on the replacements' bench after five years of almost constant involvement with the England side. Watching the Calcutta Cup match against Scotland was hard from that position. It is tough for anyone on the bench — talk to the players who have done it for years and have had only one or two caps if you want confirmation. I am lucky; I have had 52 opportunities for England.

But when I was left out, the timing was all wrong for me. I felt, perhaps, there was a chance that things had slipped away with regard to the British Isles tour to New Zealand this summer.

Stuart Barnes's performance against Scotland at Twickenham did not weaken that view. But rugby has a strange way of offering unexpected opportunities. Stuart might have thought his chances were slim before his call-up against Scotland; then the serious injury to Craig Chalmers in that match, which nobody would have wished on him, may have left the door ajar for others hoping to go to New Zealand.

Of course, it would not be true to say I haven't thought about the Lions. I desperately want to go. Now, in a match that could not be more important for both Bath and Wasps, my club, there is perhaps another opportunity to remind people what I can do.

Stand-off half is a position in which you are constantly under pressure. Stuart made a couple of excellent breaks against Scotland and England scored three good tries. But things only have to go slightly wrong at some stage, which he has not experienced yet, and the situation might change.

Although it is a cliche, it is right to say you are only as good as your next game, not the last one. Before we know it, New Zealand will be here and another season will be under way. I am not about to throw in the towel just because of last Saturday. I am not going to stop playing and I want to represent England and the Lions again.

What happens today at Bath means a great deal more than how the latest in the Stuart Barnes against Rob Andrew saga works out. It is the biggest club game of the season and very likely to decide the outcome of the Courage Clubs Championship. Players like Stuart and myself will want to perform as much for our club side and our mates, who grind it out every Tuesday and Thursday at training and do not play international rugby. The league means an awful lot and we all look forward to a game like this.

Bath were streets ahead of every other English club in the mid-to-late 1980s. But we have all been striving to catch up and Wasps believe they have in place a set-up that is capable of taking the club forward as one of the best in England for the rest of the century. We have always been a force in the last decade but now we want to go that step further and emulate the achievements of Bath in the 80s.

Today's match is the test of how much progress we have made. I believe there are few weaknesses in the Wasps side and we want to prove that today.

☐ *Interview by Peter Bills.*

Bath summit meeting has personal duel at its heart

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

THE meanest defence in the first division of the Courage Clubs Championship will come under assault today, not only from the most prolific scorers in the division but from the voices of 8,500 spectators who will pack the Bath Recreation Ground.

The meeting between Wasps, the unbeaten league leaders, and Bath holds such attraction that almost anyone who is anyone in the Roman city has been after a ticket.

Ejected from the Pilkington Cup before Christmas, defence of the title they have held for the past two seasons means everything to Bath yet Wasps, champions in 1990 and the last club to win in the league at the "Rec" — only Waterloo, in 1987, have emulated that feat — bar their path.

In eight matches, Wasps have scored 137 points compared with Bath's 236, so victory today would bring Bath level on league points but with a huge advantage in points difference. But the Scrooges from London have conceded only two tries — one in injury time to Mark Evans, of Harlequins, the other to Stuart Potter, of Leicester — as opposed to four by Bath.

It is a remarkable tribute to their defensive organisation, as is the fitness that has enabled them to select the same pack in all league fixtures and keep change behind the scrum to a minimum. "We have restricted seven teams to single-figure scores but we have seldom been able to kill them off," Dean Ryan, the Wasps captain, said.

It is no coincidence that Wasps field four genuine back-row players in their pack, since Ryan — a flanker or No. 8 by trade — has spent all season at lock. It increases their ability to cover the field and work for the positions from which they can release Chris Oti or Alan Buzza, though an inventory of their tries this season shows them spread throughout the team.

They frequently opt for two-man lineouts that permits them to cover the field with forwards. Yet you could not accuse Wasps of concentrating only on defence, for their desire to put the ball through the hands is evident.

That defence, though, will receive the ultimate test today when there is the individual confrontation between England stand-off halves present and past, Stuart Barnes and Rob Andrew, but Bath happily attack on a broad front that has brought them 28 league tries compared with the 15 by Wasps.

"Despite the importance of the match, there will be no caution by us," Barnes said. "We will still be weighing the risks and taking the positive options. Caution and close games are no good. You give the opposition the chance to break away and win it."

Their results this season suggest that Bath have come to terms with the new laws better than any other club. They had scored 167 points at this stage last season and 147 the season before. This season's tally has been boosted by 61 points against Rugby and 42 against London Irish, while Wasps' economy of effort has brought them victory in five games by five points or less. But then, as Bath discovered in 1991, when Wasps won 16-15, one point will do.

Negotiations for the continued sponsorship of the championship are expected to be resolved next week. Courage invested £2.1 million over the three-year period that ends this season but there will be more money on the table before the new agreement is reached, with Courage facing a challenge from three rivals.

However, the company has enjoyed a good working relationship with the Rugby Football Union over the last six years and is strongly identified with the competition.

☐ Cardiff defend their lead at the top of the Heineken League against Neath expecting Adrian Davies, the stand-off half, to be fit after he sustained a calf strain playing for the Barbarians on Wednesday. Swansea, level on league points, travel to Bridgend.

☐ Ian McIntosh, coach to Natal since 1985, was named yesterday as the new South Africa coach following the resignation, for personal reasons, of Gerrie Sonnekus. McIntosh, from Zimbabwe, is the first non-international and non-Afrikaner to occupy the post, which he will hold up to the 1995 World Cup.

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wasps	8	8	0	0	137	68	16
Bath	8	7	0	1	236	97	14
Leicester	9	7	0	2	159	96	14
Northampton	8	6	0	2	98	79	12
Harlequins	9	4	1	4	157	125	9
Bristol	8	4	0	4	86	109	8
London Irish	9	4	0	5	119	173	8
Gloucester	8	3	0	5	97	108	6
Orrell	8	3	0	5	71	125	6
London Scottish	8	2	1	5	120	112	5
West Hartlepool	8	2	0	6	78	103	4
Saracens	9	2	0	7	74	134	4
Rugby	8	1	0	7	64	207	2

Torquay's move supported

THE attempt by Torquay United to have relegation from the Football League suspended for two seasons has received widespread support from chairmen in all three divisions, Mike Bateson, the Torquay chairman, said yesterday (Adrian Holloway writes).

At an extraordinary general meeting of the Football League, Torquay will propose that while promotion of one team from the GM Vauxhall Conference continues, no club should be relegated to the conference until the end of the 1994-5 season. Torquay's plan will need the support of half the League's chairmen, as well as the sanction of the Football Association, who are likely to be concerned about the potential depletion of the conference and feeder leagues.

Torquay argue that their form has suffered this season because the club has spent heavily on ground improvements to comply with the requirements of the Taylor Report. Bateson said 12 letters from supportive chairmen in all three divisions will arrive at the League's headquarters this morning, almost twice the number necessary to call an emergency general meeting.

"In fact, I've approached 26 chairmen so far and been knocked back by only one," Bateson said. "The general view is, 'there but for the grace of God go I'."

"It's patently unfair that we should build a new stand and fall to the foot of the League, while a certain other third division club has spent no money on their ground in years and bought players instead yet still people are saying I'm trying to move the goalposts while the game is in progress."

Ian Cotton, of the Football League, said: "When we receive the proposal we will examine it carefully, and we would certainly pay attention to the broader ramifications for the structure of the League and the pyramid system."

First division clubs are likely to vote against Torquay's proposal, according to Reg Burr, the Millwall chairman. "Torquay are just trying to save their own skins," he said.

After securing their future at Craven Cottage on Thursday, Fulham are to announce new sponsors, the General Municipal Boilermakers. The second division club will become the first Football League club to be sponsored by a trade union.

Tait's excellence can help Leeds reach Wembley

By Christopher Irvine

ALAN Tait, the former Scotland rugby union centre, could only get into a formidable Widnes rugby league side at full back when he moved from Kelso in 1988. Horror and admiration would fill Doug Laughton as his new purchase daringly popped up in the line, chipped and chased or countered from deep.

"Full backs, you see, were supposed to field the ball and run out of defence, nothing else," Tait said. "I was just responding to instinct. Doug would have his heart in his mouth at times but, in a great off-the-cuff team like that, it worked. The role of the No. 1 position was redefined somehow."

When he left a winning outfit at Naughton Park in 1991, Laughton was determined to have the Scot with him at Leeds. It took a year but, compared with several of his team-mates this season, who found the transition and



Tait: outstanding form

weight of expectation at Headingley too much initially, Tait's form has been consistently outstanding.

The Leeds act has apparently come good for the Silk Cut Challenge Cup, although the relief at avoiding Wigan in today's first semi-final at Central Park has been tempered by memories of their opponents, Widnes, who on the same ground managed a stunning 24-0 defeat of the Yorkshire side in the final of the Regal Trophy last year.

The Widnes appetite that afternoon 14 months ago was insatiable. Leeds went through the mangle; some say they have never fully recovered. Tait put Laughton through agonies of a different kind, scoring the third of four tries.

While personnel on both sides has been drastically altered, the same differences persist. Widnes, despite key injuries to Moriarty and Faimalo, still have the edge in the forwards and blend better overall. Leeds possess the playmakers in Schofield, Gregory and Hanley at the base of the scrum and, with Tait's attacking breadth, sufficient vision to reach Wembley after 15 mainly barren years.

For Tait, whose father, also Alan, played for Workington Town, it would be a pinnacle of achievement after eight Scotland rugby union caps and ten Great Britain appearances, the last as substitute in the World Cup final defeat by Australia, when the strength of his performances for Leeds forced him back into Malcolm Reilly's reckoning.

Were it not for him pulling out of the 1990 New Zealand tour, Tait might have had a better argument against not being selected for Australia last summer. Stuart Spruce (his opposite number today) played against France last weekend but Reilly's blooding policy should give way to experience and form for the three-match home series with the Kiwis in the autumn.

Putting personal differences between him and Reilly aside, Tait has made out a solid case for the resumption of his Great Britain career. A successful visit with Leeds to Wembley on May 1 could make it irrefutable.

LEEDS: A Tait; J Fallon, S Irving, C Innes, V Fawcett; G Schofield, A Gregory; S Molloy, J Lowes, M O'Neill, P Dixon, G Mercer, E Hanley.
WIDNES: S Spruce; J Devereux, A Currier, D Wright, D Myers, J Dawes, B Goulding, K Sorensen, P Hulme, H Howard, E Koloto, R Eyres, D Hulme.
Referee: J Connolly.

RESULTS AND FIXTURES

BADMINTON

STOCKHOLM: Swedish grand prix: Men's singles: First round: R Magnusson (Swe) bt H Sperre (Nor), 15-7 15-6; R Liljequist (Fin) bt P Kumar (India), 15-7, 15-9; W Wai Lap (HK) bt H I Hyldgaard (Den), 15-9, 15-7; T Johansson (Swe) bt A Shinde (India), 15-6, 15-1; S Nielsen (Den) bt J Lundberg (Swe), 15-6, 15-2; T Lundkvist (Swe) bt S Edvardsson (Swe), 2-15, 15-3, 15-10, M Sogaard (Den) bt D Bhattacharjee (India), 13-15, 15-10, 15-3; S Kootsawatt (Thai), bt J Tuveson (Swe), 15-7, 15-4; E Lia (Norway) bt G Chand (India), 17-14, 15-12; P Espersen (Den) bt P Andreasson (Swe), 15-8, 15-1; Foo Kok Keong (Malay) bt S Saxena (India), 15-4, 15-8; Chang Kin Ngai (HK) bt R Gruaberg (Swe), 15-7, 15-4.

Second round: T Stuer-Lauridsen (Den) bt Kim Chul-soong (S Kor), 15-9, 15-3; F Permadi (India) bt M Svensson (Swe), 15-1, 15-12; R Liljequist (Fin) bt R Magnusson (Swe), 1-15, 15-3, 15-9; T Johansson (Swe) bt Wong Wai Lap (HK), 5-15, 15-10, 15-11; R Sidek (Malay) bt Vijayaraghavan (India), 15-4, 15-4; P Sung-we (S Kor) bt C Lungmark (Swe), 15-8, 15-4; S Nielsen (Den) bt A Langnes (Nor), 15-12, 15-8; H Bengsson (Swe) bt T Lundkvist (Swe), 15-9, 15-6, M Sogaard (Den) bt J Olsson (Swe), 15-6, 15-3; S Kootsawatt (Thai) bt E Lia (Nor), 11-15, 15-2, 15-2; P Jarsti (Fin) bt L Kwang-jin (S Kor), 15-5, 12-15, 15-7; A Wranata (India) bt S Sgro (Swe), 15-2, 15-8; P Espersen (Den) bt Foo Kok Keong (Malay), 15-9, 18-17; Chang Kin Ngai (H K) bt J Olsson (Swe), 10-15, 15-2, 15-9.

Women's singles: First round: B Soo-hyun (S Kor) bt L Stuer-Lauridsen (Den), 11-2, 11-0; S Jarerjetit (Thai) bt M Erlandsson (Swe), 11-2, 11-9; M Abraham (India) bt L Olsvesan (Nor), 4-11, 11-2, 11-8; S Kusumawardhani (Indo) bt Ra Kyung-min (S Kor), 3-11, 11-8, 11-3; C Magnusson (Swe) bt Wong Chun Fan (H K), 12-9, 11-4; Tanja Berg (Den) bt S Linderoth (Nor), 11-1, 11-2; C Martin (Den) bt Tove Hol (Nor), 11-2, 11-2; Chung Eun-hwa (S Kor) bt Chang Yin Sai (H K), 11-6, 11-0; L Xiaoqing (Swe) bt P Plungwech (Thai), 11-1, 11-3; Z Abdullah (Singapore) bt G Skjonhaug (Nor), 11-2, 11-1; Y Kartika (Indo) bt H Kirkegaard (Den), 12-10, 11-5; Chen Di Ni (H K) bt A Grabo (Swe), 11-4, 12-10; L Heung-soon (S Korea) bt M Pawangadkar (India), 10-12, 11-1, 11-6.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Miami Heat 97, Chicago Bulls 95; Cleveland Cavaliers 118, Charlotte Hornets 99; Detroit Pistons 112, Denver Nuggets 104; Houston Rockets 104, Portland Trail Blazers 91; Seattle SuperSonics 116, Milwaukee Bucks 105; New Jersey Nets 103, Golden State Warriors 91; Sacramento Kings 109, Minnesota Timberwolves 95.

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: First division: Cheshire Jets 71, Leicester Riders 84; Derby Rocks 111, Oldham Celtics 91.

EUROPEAN CUP: Olympiakos (Gr) 70, Limoges (Fr) 67; Pau-Orthez (Fr) 88, PAOK (Gr) 103; Virtus Bologna (It) 56, Real Madrid 76; Scaudiri Pesaro (It) 94, Benetton Treviso (It) 92.

BIATHLON

OBERSTERUND, Sweden: World Cup: Men (20km): 1, M Kirchner (Ger), 59min 42.1sec; 2, M Lofgren (Swe), 59:50.9; 3, J Niemi (Fin), 1hr 00min 53.5sec; 4, P Cerrara (It), 1:11:11.5; 5, V Mogilenko (Ukr), 1:11:41.3; 6, S Gimsdal (Nor), 1:12:46.0. Women (15km): 1, M Jasicova (Slovakia), 50:59.2; 2, N Santer (It), 52:59.6; 3, I Schkodpova (Bul), 53:32.4; ; 4, M Bedard (Can), 53:40.3; 5, P Schaef (Ger), 53:47.8; 6, C Nogrel (Fr), 53:59.6.

CRICKET

PERTH, Australia: Western Australia XI (50 overs) 213-6 (W Andrews 82, D Virgo 55); England A (46.2 overs) 214-5 (G Thorpe 44).

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Hobart: Western Australia 321 (T Zoehrer 136, B Julian 67, C Matthews 4-77, C Miller 3-59); Tasmania 235-3 (D Hills 57, N Courtney 56). Sydney: South Australia 317; New South Wales 338-6 (M Bevan 130).

CYCLING

TOUR OF MURCIA: Third stage (195km): Leading positions (Spain unless stated): 1, A Gutierrez, 5hr 19min 19sec; 2, F de Clercq (Bel); 3, V Belmor (Fra); 4, M Fernandez; 5, J Goosens (Bel); 6, C Peers (Bel), all same time. Overall: 1, C Galarreta, 13hr 33min 37sec; 2, R Torres; 3, V Ridaura, same time.

WORLD RANKINGS: 1, M Indurain (Sp), 2,688pts; 2, A Rominger (Switz), 1,609; 3, C Chiappucci (It), 1,607; 4, G Bugno (It), 1,521; 5, O Ludwig (Ger), 1,297; 6, V Chiocioli (It), 1,087; 7, J Museeuw (Bel), 1,042; 8, L Jalabert (Fr), 1,000; 9, A Zulle (Switz), 965; 10, L Leblanc (Fr), 921. Other position: 30, S Roche (Ire), 595.

FOOTBALL

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa 3, Leicester City 3; Blackburn Rovers 4, Bolton Wanderers 0.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division cup: Ashton Utd 0, Bridlington Town 3.

FA HARP LAGER CUP: Second round replay: Horne Ferm 0, Limerick 0 (aet).

FRENCH LEAGUE: Caen 2, Auxerre 1.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Oviedo 2, Cádiz 1.

EQUESTRIANISM

DORTMUND: Northrhine-Westphalia prize: 1, Osta Carpets Queen (J-C Vangeenberghe, Bel), 0 faults, 32.70secs; 2, Philadelphia Flyers 6, Washington Capitals 4; Minnesota North Stars 4, Vancouver Canucks 3; NY Rangers 4, Chicago Blackhawks 1; St Louis Blues 5, San Jose Sharks 1; Calgary Flames 8, Detroit Red Wings 3.

GOLF

TUCSON, Arizona: Women's tournament: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 67: D Eggeling, M Mallon, M Meckall, B Daniel, J Bales-Hinton. 68: C Rarick, T Johnson (GB), L Davies (GB), P Bradley, Laura Baugh. 69: P Sinn (Kor), A M Palli (Fr), J Crafter (Aus), B Sunkowsky (C). 70: L Walters (Can), H Alfredsson (Swe). 71: K Dawes (GB). 72: P Wright (GB), N Le Roux (SA), T Abitbol (Sp). British: 74: S Struwolok.

BANGKOK: Men's tournament: Leading second-round scores: 135: C Lanan (Ven), 68, 69. 136: Haleh Chan Sheng (Taiwan), 70, 66. 137: Haleh Yu Shu (Taiwan), 67, 70; S Ginn (Aus), 65, 72. 138: B King (Aus), 72, 66; S Flesch (US), 67, 71. 139: N Kawakami (Japan), 68, 71. 140: C Mann (Aus), 72, 68; J Taylor (Aus), 70, 70; P Haugsrud (Nor), 68, 72; R Foreman (GB), 67, 73; J Kershan (US), 67, 73.

HANDBALL

STOCKHOLM: Men's world championship: Group A: Egypt 21, Czechoslovakia 20; Spain 22, Austria 15. Group B: Switzerland 23, France 24; Norway 15, Romania 15. Group C: Iceland 25, Hungary 21; Sweden 32, United States 16. Group D: Russia 33, South Korea 16; Germany 22, Denmark 20.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Pittsburgh Penguins 4, LA Kings 3; Boston Bruins 5, Montreal Canadiens 2; Philadelphia Flyers 6, Washington Capitals 4; Minnesota North Stars 4, Vancouver Canucks 3; NY Rangers 4, Chicago Blackhawks 1; St Louis Blues 5, San Jose Sharks 1; Calgary Flames 8, Detroit Red Wings 3.

RUGBY FIVES

Rugby Fives Assoc 131, Clifton Coll 131, Tonbridge 134, Christ's Hosp 48.

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Kent Schools seven-a-side tournament: Semi-finals: Eltham College 15, Colfe's 7, King's Canterbury 17, Judd 18. Final: Eltham College 17, Judd 5.

SKIING

ALTENMARKT, Austria: Freestyle Skiing World Championships, men's ballet final: 1, F Becker (Fr), 29.30 pts; 2, R Kristansen (Nor), 29.00; 3, L Sjora (US), 28.80. Women's ballet: 1, E Breen (US), 25.50; 2, S Pezzoli (US), 24.15; 3, C Fedroz (Fr), 23.95. British: 5, J Snell, 22.70

NORDIC SKIING

HOLMENKOLLEN, Norway: World Cup Nordic combined event: 1, J Kogawa (Japan) 231.6 pts (first jump 116.0 m, second jump, 115.5); 2, K Takanori (Japan), 224.0 (115.5, 109.5); 3 A Masashi (Japan) 209.1 (110.2, 98.9).

TENNIS

ZARAGOZA, Spain: Men's indoor open tournament: Second round: K Novacek (Czt bt R Matuszewski, (US), 6-4, 6-2; F Roig (Sp) bt J Cuhna-Silva, (Por), 6-2, 7-6; M Goellner (Ger) bt B Wuyts (Bel), 7-6, 6-4, M Damm (Cz) bt S Siman (Fr), 6-3, 6-3; A Thorne (Ger) bt M Gustafsson, (Swe), 6-4, 7-6; J Svensson (Swe) bt J F Aitur (Sp), 7-6, 6-2.

VOLLEYBALL

EUROPEAN CUP: Semi-finals: Olympiakos (Gr) 1, Maxicono Parma (It) 3; Il Messaggero Ravenna 3, Maes Pils Zelik (Bel), 1.

YACHTING

VENDEE BOLD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: LEADING POSITIONS (with miles to finish): 1, A Gautier (Fr), Bagages Superior, 205m; 2, P Poupon (Fr), Fleury-Michon, 1,294m; 3, J-L Van den Heede (Fr), Solep-Helvim, 1,482m; 4, Y Parlier (Fr), Cacolac d'Aquitaine, 2,125m; 5, N Fa (Hun), K and H Bank Malev, 3,198m, 6, J-L de Ugarte (Sp), Euskadi, 4,252m.

BRITISH STEEL CHALLENGE: Leading positions (at 15:00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Cape Town): 1, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 947m; 2, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss), 1,124; 3, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 1,134; 4, Rhone-Poulenca (P Phillips), 1,231; 5, British Steel II (R Tudor), 1,231; 6, Commercial Union Assurance (R Memweather), 1,238; 7, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 1,272; 8, Heath Insured (A Donovan), 1,283; 9, InterSpray (P Jeffes), 1,313; 10 Pride of Teesside (I MacGillvray), 1,495.

☐ Compiled by British Telecom

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fall
AUSTRIA							
Obergurgl	80	200	good	variable	clear	4	7/3
(Dry snow on packed base; all lifts and runs open)							
Seefeld	75	110	variable	open	sunny	3	8/3
(Snow softening by midday; some slick patches on all runs)							
FRANCE							
Alpe d'Huez	30	250	hard-packed	thin	bright	4	3/3
(Artificial snow on lower runs; 60 lifts and 58 runs open)							
Les Arcs	50	320	good	open	bright	3	4/3
(Extensive skiing available; best snow on glacier)							
Meribel	30	175	good	open	sunny	2	4/3
(Some lower runs worn; Mont de la Chalie recommended)							
Tignes	160	365	good	open	sunny	-2	3/3
(Low temperatures maintaining snow depth; entire ski area open)							
ITALY							
Cervinia	50	290	good	open	sunny	-2	2/3
(Extensive skiing on 9km base; all lifts open)							
Courmayeur	70	200	good	open	sunny	7	8/3
(Hard-packed snow on upper runs; 25 of 27 lifts open)							
SWITZERLAND							
Saas Fee	50	285	good	open	sunny	2	4/3
(Hard-packed base on lower runs; all 26 lifts open)							
St Moritz	80	40	good	thin	overcast	2	3/3
(Lower Corviglia runs patchy; best snow on glacier)							
Villars	10	90	good	difficult	sunny	2	3/3
(Best snow on hard-packed upper pistes; all lifts open)							
Zermatt	70	200	good	open	fine	-1	4/3
(Links with Cervinia open; dry snow on hard-packed base; all runs open)							
UNITED STATES							
Vail	155	215	good	open	overcast	2	11/3
(Fresh snow on hard-packed base; entire ski area open)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

RACING 35
SIMON BARNES GOES IN SEARCH OF THE IRISH WAY

SPORT

CRICKET 36
ATHERTON BACK IN FAVOUR FOR SRI LANKA TEST

SATURDAY MARCH 13 1993

Lineker labours to match Japanese industry



Rob Hughes, *football correspondent*, discovers how Gary Lineker has settled into a strict training regime in Tasmania with his Japanese club

The early morning sun filters across Australia's southernmost port of Hobart. You hear the trickle of a water fountain on the forecourt of a country manor while 50 tracksuited figures stand on one leg in silent unison.

This is taisou, the Japanese way to stretch the body and mind to meet the rigours of a working day. The gathering in red tracksuits includes players of Nagoya Grampus Eight, the Toyota-backed club preparing for the new Japanese J-League. The players are not all Oriental: there are two Brazilians, a Dutchman, and Gary Lineker.

The team is preparing in Hobart as a retreat from the clamour Lineker's arrival caused in Nagoya where, reportedly, he will earn £3 million over two years. After two weeks of extreme physical training here, they today play a public match against a Tasmanian selection. Gari Rinika, the closest the Japanese can get, is already revered for his manners and his almost Asiatic self-control.

"I haven't noticed the massive culture shock everybody warned me about," the former England striker said laconically. "They are humane people, always laughing. If it wasn't for the language barrier, I would say there is probably just the same childish humour you get in any dressing room in any country. I just wish I understood it all."

But he says there has been no moment of sudden shock, just a lot of little things. Small, but sometimes deadly. A couple of days ago, rare in his career, Lineker tweaked a muscle in the thigh. The Japanese know everything about him, even his reputed economy when it comes to training. They have a Toyota staff trainer known as "Robocop", Norio Thukidate.

He has smiling eyes but the fitness guru's sadistic approach. His grasp of English is sufficient to have taught Lineker anatomical words, and besides isolating him from the morning training for extra running laps and exercises, he has arranged with his friend the masseur a special Lineker hour.

This concerns *momo*, or the thigh. It is there, the sore spot, where four two-inch needles are inserted. Lineker had had acupuncture once before, but then the needles penetrated half an inch: now they disappeared two inches into the flesh. "The one closest to the injury was excruciating," he admitted. "It's different: they don't seem to rely too much on machines, needles and a lot of finger pressure. I don't know if it's better."

Inside the camp, which we were warned would be like entering the set of *Tenko*, there is a surprisingly relaxed atmosphere from the head man down. Ryuzo Hiraki, 61, the elder statesman who chose Lineker for the team, is another whose easy smile hides the mind of a meticulous organiser.

Watching the practice is Alex MacDonald, who selected the Tasmanian opposition. "It's awesome," he said. "The whole training field is set out like ballet on stage. You can watch maybe 20 different activities at the time."

After the early morning stretch, over breakfast, Dirk Havenaar, the Dutch goalkeeper who has spent seven years in Japan, pointed out that Lineker's struggle with the language is not the fault of his Englishness. "There are so many dialects," Havenaar said, "and Nagoya is different, even for me."

The hubbub of breakfast contrasts with the silent concentration not only around the fountain, but often around the oak-panelled halls of the former blind and deaf institute where the team is staying.

Before this team leaves tomorrow to play games in Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan and, in April, at Elland Road, Leeds, there will come another, quite terrible, silence. Seventeen of the 35 players will be cut — cut in the American sense. The head coach will decide they are surplus to requirements and all the sacrifice and fanaticism of their efforts will have come to nothing. Lineker, so grateful for his own enduring career, will find no words of comfort for the unfortunates.



Centre of attention: Lineker, surrounded by his team-mates in the Grampus Eight squad training session in Hobart yesterday. Photograph: John Sibley

For the rest, the training will be as before. It will pick up after breakfast with a collective routine that looks close in style to the Brazilian approach. The players and coaches jog around the field, arms sometimes flailing like windmills, the intention to look like a well-organised chorus line. In Brazil, it has the rhythm of the drums. Among the Japanese, it has a drilled, almost martial-art, intensity; and Lineker, though of average size, is dwarfed by some of his Japanese colleagues, two of whom top 6ft 4in.

This Brazilian feeling is no accident. Coaches from the world's foremost football country have taken charge *en masse* in the newest professional league, although the head coach, Jorge Yonashiro, combines both nationalities. He is Brazilian by birth, Japanese through 20 years of playing and coaching experience. As he oversees the limbering-up routines, there is again this incredible, almost monastic silence, penetrated only by the coach's commands such as *fukuru hagi* (calf stretch).

"I miss Michelle and George; heaven knows what my telephone bill must be," Lineker said of the wife and son who will join him two weeks from now. In August, the family is due a second child, to be born in Japan. "We are going there for a new lifestyle, just as we did in Barcelona," he added. "There's no reason for the new baby not to be born where we are."

That is a state of international integration, as with the Brazilian playmaker, Jorginho, on whom Lineker depends most for a rapport with Grampus Eight. Jorginho stands out as so much more languid in movement than anyone, Japanese, Dutch or English. "I've never had such a passer at club level," Lineker enthused. "I would doubt Jorginho is a better player than Gascoigne or Beardsley, but his whole game is about trying to get the front men in." Gazza, he added, only gave the ball when he thought he might get it back.

"I've played with Hoddle and, for a short time, with Schuster, but it's fantastic playing up front with Jorginho always trying to make these passes. His whole game is built on this."

The work ethic of the Japanese becomes a dominant theme. "It is relentless, always 100 miles an hour, 90 minutes long," Havenaar said. "This long, long training is boring, very boring: they have to learn to enjoy it."

Lineker feels the players of this new footballing nation have to learn to cut down their pace, but added: "It's a bit early to say what system we will play. They build up a passing game, a little bit in the South American style, but get too excited on the ball. Technically they're sound, but they tend not to know what to do with the ball until they get it."

And Lineker, adapting to a language in which there is no native football vocabulary, calls out: "Kicko, shooto, passo". He does not, at the end of the longest training days of his life, join the fanatics who volunteer for weight training in the gym.

But this is not, and cannot be, so violent a change of perspective as that which came with learning to live through the past year with a son whose leukaemia, while mercifully under control, will not be declared cured for five months. Illness, like football, crosses any boundary.

Ferguson prepared to recall Robson against Villa

By Dennis Shaw and Ian Ross

BRYAN Robson is expected to play his first senior game since December tomorrow when Manchester United attempt to frustrate the Premier League ambitions of the man who brought him to Old Trafford, Ron Atkinson, the manager of Aston Villa, who trail United on goal difference.

Robson, 36, suffered a serious calf injury three months ago but Alex Ferguson is prepared to draft him in tomorrow as United attempt to open up a three-point lead.

Ferguson said: "I have said it time and time again. Bryan has been this club's most outstanding individual player for a decade. He has trained hard and he is now looking ready for it.

"He has had three minor games now but what will have raised his confidence the most is the fact that he has had three weeks' training without any interruptions. His influence when he is on the field is absolutely tremendous."

Eric Cantona, the France forward, who has missed the last two games because of suspension, will definitely return in place of Kanchelskis.

Atkinson believes that Norwich, in third place, are the club most likely to benefit from the result. He said: "All the hype about the Old Trafford game is working beautifully for Norwich City. They will be sitting back in dear old East Anglia and saying to Manchester United and ourselves: 'Go on, nick a point off each other. You've both got to come down to our place to play us.' This weekend decides nothing."

LEADERS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	32	17	9	6	49	25	60
Aston Villa	32	17	9	6	48	31	60
Norwich	32	16	8	8	45	46	56
Sheff Wed	31	13	10	8	41	34	49
QPR	32	13	8	11	44	38	47
Blackburn	31	12	10	9	43	32	46
Man City	31	13	7	11	44	34	46
Coventry	33	12	10	11	45	42	46

Sheffield Wednesday, another club once managed by Atkinson, take a 4-2 lead into the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final second leg against Blackburn Rovers tomorrow but may be without Paul Warhurst, who scored twice at Ewood Park in the first leg.

In an attempt to make certain of promotion to the Premier League, Newcastle United bought Andrew Cole, the England under-21 striker, from Bristol City for £1.75 million yesterday, taking Kevin Keegan's spending for the week to nearly £3 million.

Keegan strengthened Newcastle's challenge by signing Scott Sellars from Leeds United for £700,000 on Tuesday and Mark Robinson from Barnsley for £450,000. Although the club has substantial debts, it is believed to have secured a kit contract with Asics UK worth around £2 million.

Arsenal, who sold Cole to Bristol City for £500,000, are entitled to a third of any profit made on the transfer, which was sanctioned by Russell Osman on his appointment as the first division club's caretaker manager yesterday.

Bristol's other club, Rovers, also named a new manager yesterday after luring John Ward from York City. He replaced Malcolm Allison, the temporary manager, who had returned to take charge of team affairs after health problems.

Formerly an assistant to Graham Taylor at Aston Villa, Ward led York City from the bottom of the third division to fourth place.

Sky Sports has secured live and exclusive coverage of England's matches in the world under-20 championship in Melbourne, starting with the quarter-final against Mexico tomorrow at 8am.

Saturday portrait, page 38
Torquay's move, page 39

Environmental law is becoming serious.



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Pyjamas spur Edey to battle

RON Edey has swept home effortlessly as Hero of the Week and, indeed, makes a strong early bid for Hero of the Year.

Edey is a retired solicitor's clerk and a former Liberal councillor. He has a busy day on Monday. In the morning, he takes the Lord Chancellor to the High Court; after that, he dives in against the Test and County Cricket Board. He plans to make them go back on their plans to make cricketers wear coloured clothing for Sunday matches in the coming season.

In the High Court, Edey will oppose the cuts in legal aid, taking up legal cudgels against the Lord Chancellor with the claim that the cuts are "unlawful and irrational". I would not be oversanguine of his chances for a high-minded victory here: but he is odds-on to strike the first blow against the TCCB later in the day.

Edey is a Kent member: county membership has been deeply irritated by the way in which the coloured clothing law was established without consultation. Kent, who hold their annual meeting on Monday, could give the lead to the country in opposing the imposition of pyjamas. Edey thinks that a majority of ten counties will oppose the Jim-jams Edict. Kent players should be grateful: I would not fancy playing in sky blue with maroon-and-navy trim myself.

Blinking tough

Oi, linesman! You blind or what? No no, gentle fan, my vision is 20-20 — it is merely that the job of linesman is physically impossible, and there is a paper from the Institute of Bio-mechanics in Valencia to prove it.

To make an offside decision, a linesman must watch the point at which the ball is played, and then shift his gaze immediately to the positions of last attacker/first defender. These two points must be considered simultaneously if the linesman is to implement the laws of the game. But this involves, the bio-mechanical researchers calculate, a time-lag of one-fifth of a second: enough of a gap to make a number of incorrrect decisions inevitable.

Nor does television help: an offside decision cannot be calculated accurately on a television camera that works at a conventional 24 frames a second. To be certain of an accurate result, you would need a camera working at 500 frames a second. In short, the offside law is unworkable.

Cleaning up act

Humble football managers have a lot in common with Muslim popes. But Mick Rathbone, of Halifax Town, contrite after calling his players "a load of rubbish", has paid a fine to the players' pool, washed the players' cars and scrubbed out the lavs. "I went over the top. I told them I am sorry and would do penance," he said.



SIMON BARNES
Sporting Diary

In second place for the Hero of the Week award is Quinton Fortune. Quinton will be playing on Tuesday in the first final of the Boodle and Dunthorne Cup. It will be contested by Charterhouse and Forest and will be the first time that a cup competition has united the soccer-playing "independent" schools. Quinton is a black South African and is under the wing of Tottenham Hotspur, who have supported his venture in this country and his sojourn among the public schools of England.

On Wednesday, the Army football team takes on the RAF (good in the air, ho ho) at Aldershot. Here is a tip for the RAF: keep talking to them. You'll drive them mad. No Army player is permitted to talk to an opponent or the referee. And any Army player booked for dissent (Oi, linesman! You blind or what?) is substituted. What happens if they have already used all their substitutes? "Such a situation has not yet arisen," I was told sternly.



Cosford appeal

More on the RAF. Yes, they are going to destroy the bleak, unlovely track at RAF Cosford. The aircraft hangar where Coe and Budd have set world records.

There is now a permanent indoor track at the Kelvin Hall in Glasgow and facility for a temporary track at the National Indoor Arena in Birmingham. But Cosford is the only permanent indoor track in England. Its winter meetings still bring in 1,000 competitors; it is also used by national squad athletes for winter training.

A campaign to save Cosford has begun (without the help of Sebastian Coe, MP). A spokesman for the Midland Counties Athletic Association said: "We understand the cutbacks in defence funding. But we would like to discuss a compromise."

If the RAF reclaimed just half the giant hangar — preferably not the half with the track in it — Cosford could continue as the winter centre for English athletics.

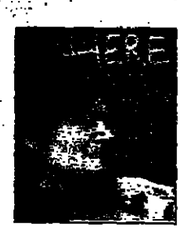
هكذا من الأصل

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Relais Gourmands

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Win a Relais & Châteaux break
Roman holiday, page 7



WHAT TO WEAR
Chic on a bicycle seat
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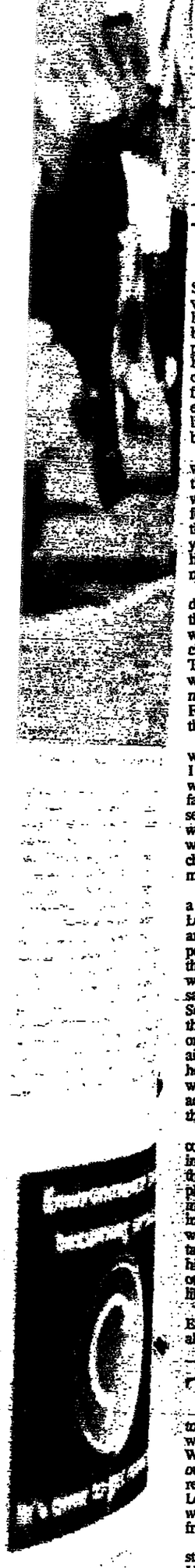
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WEEKEND 3

THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 13 1993

I lost my wife in the blackboard jungle



John Rae on how 16 years as headmaster at Westminster almost cost him his marriage

MARTIN BEDDALL



Open house: John Rae enjoyed the "French farce" of finding strangers in his Westminster home at all hours — "but, for the family, there was nowhere to escape to"

The role of a headmaster's wife is difficult to define. For Daphne, the problems were exacerbated by being married to someone of my temperament

When we moved to Westminster, the oldest of our six children, Siobhan, was 13. Space was not the problem: there were nine bedrooms and three bathrooms. The problem at number 17 Dean's Yard was lack of privacy. I had seen no other headmaster's house where the staff common room was on the ground floor, and where pupils and teachers looking for the headmaster were likely to appear unexpectedly in the bedroom corridor.

Seeing a naked stranger wrapped in a towel emerge from the spare bedroom, Daphne, my wife, challenged him; he was the fencing "professor" who had used the room for changing for many years. Since he spoke little English his attempts to explain himself were not immediately successful.

The front door was never locked during the day, allowing some of the cranks, tramps and thieves who were attracted to the Abbey precincts to find their way up the stairs. There was something about this way of living that appealed to me. It must have been the element of French farce. But, for the family, there was nowhere to escape to.

Having a headmaster for a father was also a problem for the children. I could not prevent the pressure of work coming between me and the family. Although I was at home, I seldom had time for them. And I was so accustomed to interrupting what other people said that my children sometimes had difficulty making themselves heard.

To live in a fine Regency house in a cathedral close in the centre of London was some compensation, and the children met interesting people. But the real advantage for them, I suspect, was having a father who had seen many young people safely on the journey to adulthood. So that when Penelope slammed the door and said she was leaving, or Jonathan took pot shots with his air gun at one of the Westminster housemasters, I did not think there was much cause for concern: in adolescence it was the arrival, not the journey, that mattered.

Their peccadilloes were bound to come my way. Siobhan was caught in a pub with four boys. And when the curtain went up on the house play, there she was, sitting on stage in a short skirt and fishnet stockings, smoking a cigarette. Daphne walked out. On the other hand, I taught all three daughters A-level history. I treated them like any other pupils and they treated me like any other teacher.

At home Siobhan, Penelope and Emily had no hesitation in talking about the boys they liked, who always seemed to be those who were "misunderstood by their housemaster". Sometimes I would come across these rogues, doing their best to look sheepish as they padded like wolves along the bedroom corridor. Because the boys were pupils, I did not take the relationships seriously. How wrong I was became clear when two of our daughters married former Westminster boys who had been their contemporaries.

The role of a headmaster's wife in an English public school is difficult to define. Few women today would be satisfied with a role that falls somewhere between a housekeeper and a hostess.

Her home is not her own. Her husband is not her own. In term time, the school is his mistress and he visits her at all hours; she is seldom off his mind.

For Daphne, the everyday problems were exacerbated by being married to someone of my temperament. I cannot make out whether I was born so reticent and wary of relationships, or whether that side of my nature was simply reinforced by the need to survive at boarding-school and the demands of headmastering. Whichever it was, I developed such a defensive manner that, even with my own family, I was careful not to give too much away.

Our marriage broke down because we found it increasingly difficult to live with one another. The tension between our private and public lives may have accelerated the process but it was not to blame. As the children grew up, the precarious nature of our relationship was exposed. Rather than face up to it, I became increasingly preoccupied with surviving and succeeding in my job, a familiar male alibi for failing sexual and emotional interest.

We separated in 1976. Our relationship had become so strained that a break was welcome to us both. It was not welcome to the children; Daphne was a good mother and they missed her. Shamus and Jonathan were only ten, but it was the girls in their teens who seemed to be more disorientated by the separation. The break in the marriage turned out to be a blessing, a breathing space that Daphne and I both needed, but we will probably never know what effect it had on the children.



After the break: John and Daphne Rae together again at the school entrance in Dean's Yard

Westminster's governors took a characteristically worldly view. The official line was: "The headmaster and his wife are living apart but the headmaster is continuing at Westminster with the full support of the governing body."

Gradually, over several months, Daphne and I tried to put the marriage together again. When she eventually returned for good, the school community treated her as though nothing had happened, but what worried her was the need to find a new direction in her life. In 1979 Daphne got on a plane to India. Over the next seven years, she made several trips there to work, first with the Sisters of Charity in Calcutta and then in a leprosy village in north Bihar.

People were uncertain how to react to this headmaster's wife who had left her husband and returned, who had become a Roman Catholic while her husband was head of an Anglican school, and who had taken off for India to immerse herself in death, leprosy and abortion. And Daphne enjoyed shocking people with gruesome details.

In 1983 we gave a party to mark the publication of her book *A World Apart*. She had shown me the typescript and although I had not read it all, I had read enough to know that her references to life in single-sex boarding-schools would attract attention. The fact that what she had to say was true did not make the references to homosexuals in the common room any less provocative. But at the party there was no hint of the storm to come. I was taken aback by the vehemence of the attacks on the book.

Public school headmasters told the press how much they disapproved of the book, though it was clear that few of them had read it. Literary critics attacked the book. Anonymous letters arrived.

What raw nerve had the book touched? The days when people got excited about dormitory revelations had long since gone. It was more than 60 years since Alec Waugh's novel, *The Loom of Youth*, which described in guarded terms his adolescent experiences at Sherborne, had caused a similar outcry. *A World Apart* was different in one important respect from all previous revelations of public school life: it was written by a woman.

A week after the book's publication, a new dimension emerged. It was claimed that two short passages in the book were based on individuals who could be identified, including a member of the Westminster staff. If the governors and the common room believed that I had seen those passages in typescript, my position as headmaster would be untenable. I was sure I had not seen them. But this was difficult to prove and I could tell that my friends on the staff and the governing body had doubts. My future hung in the balance.

MONDAY Part 2: Drugs, girls and governors.

● *Edited extracts from* Delusions of Grandeur — A Headmaster's Life, *1966-86, published on March 18 by HarperCollins (£16.99).*

Going where the living is easier

Or why anywhere will do nicely, as long as it isn't home

WEEKEND *voice*

MARY KILLEN

The grass-is-always-greener syndrome came into play last weekend when we went to the Suffolk-Essex borders, where we lived before we moved to Wiltshire. It was 1988 when we left our little pargeted shack for three reasons: it took too long to get to London; I thought the landscape was too maidenly; we had two friends there and 20 in Wiltshire.

My husband always wanted to stay there — he liked those factors. He revelled in the maidenly landscape, with its flatnesses and churches on horizons and wimpy estuaries. Now we both felt mournful as we drove to our friend Cyril's favourite pub, The Pheasant at Yeldham, where there would be no danger of meeting anyone we knew.

In the fresh bright air the medieval pink and ochre-washed houses reflected the sunlight, and Rackham-like trees with "personalities" lined the route. All the way there we lamented leaving...

"Look!" shouted my husband every few minutes. "Another codger. You even have proper old codgers here."

"Don't be ridiculous," said Cyril. "There must be some old men in Wiltshire."

"Yes, but they don't wear flannel suits and ride black bicycles. There's another one! I bet that old codger's seen some changes in his time. It must be because they live off the land and the trace elements help them to live longer than in other counties."

"Tosh," said Cyril, tetchily, adding: "At least you don't get that in Wiltshire," as he pointed to a garden full of rusting cars. It's true that cars in East Anglia never seem to reach the scrap heap, but die *in situ* before becoming hen-coops or sinking into the mud and generally lowering the tone. To a visitor from an image-conscious county such as Wiltshire, such sights are picturesque.

"Look at that wonderful old farm just *marooned* like a ship in a sea of brown earth!"

"The whole of East Anglia is marooned," said Cyril happily. He is a writer and likes the fact that nobody he knows from London is likely to be passing through. "One of the reasons Philip Larkin lived in Hull was because it was too far for American academics to come and visit him. Most of them could only just make it as far as George Barker in Norfolk."

Yes, self-sufficient Cyril, who needs no company to stimulate him, gave us a bit of a turn with his complacent attitude. Living off the beaten track, he gets far more work done than I do, living on the beaten track. One of the great time-saving factors in his life is the fact that he can go round in his pyjamas for most of the day, getting out of bed, putting on a filthy jumper over his nightwear and walking, with incipient beard bristling, straight into the garden but where he writes. Any time I have risked being in nightwear in my own cottage during the day I have heard "Hello! Are you here?" as a perfectly groomed person from London (90 minutes away) drops in because she was just passing through.

It is easy to see things through rose-tinted spectacles when spending time in other people's houses in other places, and to be faintly disturbed by the fact that a higher quality of life seems to be available.

It's not just about people living in more beautiful countries — friends in Kenya do complain that the lotus-eating palls a bit when there is nobody on your wavelength. It is partly because there's a great deal of mental peace to be had in getting away from your own things and the responsibility of organising your own life. Yes, this is another thing that is appealing about staying with someone — it reminds you of being a child. Grown-ups (your friends) are in charge, to make all the decisions and turn off the safety hazards, cook the food and light the fires, while you play with their things — videos, books, etc.

We went on a Club Med skiing holiday last March and I was never happier than to leave my brain at the door and my wallet in the hotel safe. All food and drink inside the so-called village is free. The only thing you need worry about losing is your ski pass. But greatest ecstasy of all — a notice-board tells you what to do each day.

So many people think that the grass is greener in a Club Med village that 250 holidaymakers a week apply to stay on to work in them. I suspect that more people than would admit it revel in the freedom of other people's houses, other people's decisions.

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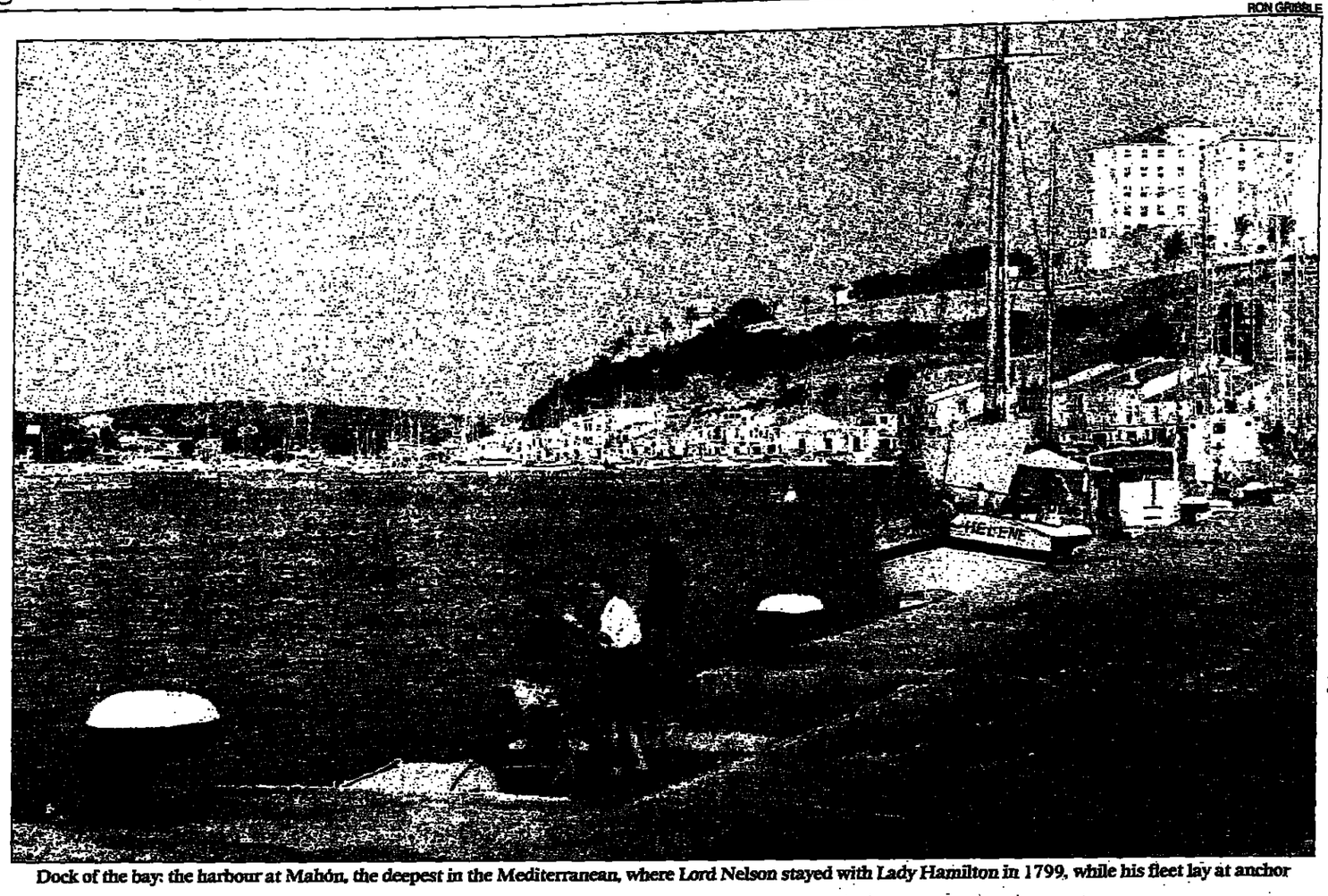
Our major series of Impressionist and Modern art sales in London are on 22nd and 23rd June. If you have any paintings that you would like to include in the London sale, please contact us on the number below before 15th April.

For enquiries regarding these sales, please contact Michel Strauss, Melanie Clore or Asya Chorley in the Impressionist and Modern Art Department in London on 071-408 5394.

Ron Gribble is bitten by the bug of Minorca, with its remote coves, ancient monuments and strong sense of identity

Unlocking a Spanish secret

RON GRIBBLE



Dock of the bay: the harbour at Mahón, the deepest in the Mediterranean, where Lord Nelson stayed with Lady Hamilton in 1799, while his fleet lay at anchor

It was dark and humid and *they were after my blood. I* raised my hands in self-defence and swiped blindly at the blackness, but there were too *many of them. They could sense my* body heat and came in for the kill. I *was easy prey.*

The face that stared back at me in *the mirror next morning confirmed* the worst. It was no dream. One *puffy eye was half closed. My* swollen top lip made it difficult to speak. I looked like Quasimodo after a round with Frank Bruno.

"Ah, *los mosquitos*," exclaimed the Spanish holiday rep who came to visit us that morning at our villa in the scrubland hills of Mahón, the capital of Minorca. "You are very unlucky. We have had so little rain this year, and the mosquitoes are hungrier than usual."

It was a brutal introduction to this oh-so-English and usually the wettest Balearic Island. It was also a touch ironic I thought, as I looked out, one-eyed, over the bay to Golden Farm — the estate where, legend has it, Nelson stayed with Lady Hamilton in 1799 while his fleet lay at anchor in the harbour.

In the local *farmacia* the old man took one look at my face, nodded knowingly, and prescribed some antiseptic cream that had me right *again within 12 hours, and so able* to enjoy Spain's best-kept secret.

Minorca's success lies in the lack of a coastal road, so the dozens of *caves and bays around the island* can be reached only by a series of *minor roads, many little more than* dusty tracks. And just to confuse, *some of these routes are unsign-*posted, thus further protecting the *beaches from invading hordes. The* trick is to hire a four-wheel drive runabout and buy the local archaeological map. *Landscapes of Minorca* by Rodney Ansell was an ideal travelling companion and helped us to explore the rugged coastline, dotted with caves, watch-towers, castles and fortified farms, built to keep out pirates.

In the 1960s, when the Franco government gave developers permission to build two ugly hotel *blocks on the Son Bou beach, one* of the island's beauty spots, angry *locals threatened to blow them up.* Today, under King Juan Carlos, *Minorca makes its own planning* decisions and is much tougher with *developers. The king has also* encouraged the island to keep its *identity, and many of the Spanish* place-names have been changed *back to the old Minorcan ones.*

New developments are restricted to two storeys, and tend to be planned around villas or low-level apartments to preserve the skyline and the natural landscape. The resort of Binibeca, for example, has been modelled on the style of a fishing village, with clumps of white houses dotted along the seafront like marshmallow blocks.

Only half a million holidaymakers visit the island each year, a tenth of the number that go to Majorca, so Minorca is rarely crowded. Even at the height of August, the roads were almost empty. When we drove to the top of Monte Toro — the highest point on the island and a popular tourist spot — the narrow mountain road was quiet.

Our villa was one of an isolated pair in a tasteful development at *Cala Llonga*, overlooking Mahón harbour, a view we shared with *Virgin boss Richard Branson, who* has a holiday home here. The *island is perfect for families, with* clean beaches and safe swimming *for children. We shared a pool with* another English family in the *adjoining villa and after our first* dip on arrival our son, Simon, soon *made friends with the children and* spent many a happy afternoon with *them on the beach.*

In the evening, we often dined at *one of the waterfront restaurants* and, as the sun set, watched the yachting crews, bronzed and beautiful, mooring their sleek cruisers after a day at sea.

Known to the locals as *Sa Roqueta* (the little rock), Minorca is peppered with Bronze Age stone circles, massive T-shaped slabs of rock called *taulas*, thought to be altars or idols, burial chambers known as *navetas*, built of dozens of boulders and looking like giant upturned crusty pork pies, and *talayots*, stumpy stone lookout towers.

More modern settlers built stone cattlesheds, pigsties and dry-stone *walls. For centuries farmers* scratching a living from the flinty *red earth have built the walls,* which now crisscross the island, to *stop soil erosion and shade their* crops. The tortoise, the eagle and the kite survive here. Lines of bright yellow pumpkins ripen on the stone walls that lead to little white farmhouses at the end of long drives, through rustic gates made of knotty, twisted chestnut.

If you tire of exploring, take a gentle boat trip round the three-and-a-half mile long Mahón harbour, the deepest in the Mediterranean and, after Pearl Habour in Hawaii, the second largest natural shelter in the world.

You can buy boat tickets at the *Mad Hatter snack bar on the* quayside, run for the past 12 years *by a jolly woman called Diane from* Buckinghamshire. We enjoyed one *of her prawn and pineapple open* sandwiches, home-made cakes, *and a cold beer while we waited for* the boatman.

The harbour still houses an 18th-century naval station, bristling with cannon, which dates back to the days when Minorca was part of the British Empire. At the mouth of the harbour lies the old quarantine island of Lazareto, with its thick double walls, where 9,000 sick sailors — some with leprosy — were evennually isolated when their ships arrived in Minorca. Today, ironically, Lazareto is used as a holiday camp for doctors and nurses in the Spanish health service. Children sat dangling their feet in the water and waved as we passed in the boat.

While the boatman tells ancient tales of invaders from North Africa and Turkey *sailing up the harbour,* much to the delight of children, *adult passengers can enjoy a swig* of sweet gin, still distilled at the *local factory to the original English* recipe, dating back to the days *when the Royal Navy had it made* on the spot for sailors' rations.

Our boat trip ended at Villa Carlos, called George Town when a British garrison was billeted there. In 1535, the Turkish naval commander Kheir-ed-Din Barbarossa (Redbeard) sailed under false colours into the harbour, sacked the town and sailed away with 800 captives.

Today, Villa Carlos is a picturesque, peaceful spot, but by night it becomes a vibrant eating place, with long tables of visitors dining by candlelight under the stars. At *the end of a towpath, away from the* sightseers, we found Sa Cova, a *simple restaurant favoured by the* locals, and enjoyed a fine lunch of *freshly-caught lobster, scallops,* prawns and mussels, served in the *open from a big black cooking pan,* as we sat in the sun with a bottle of wine, watching fishermen untangle their nets.

Minorca is a tale of two cities; for a complete contrast, a visit to Ciudadela, on the other side of the island, is a must. The largest fortified city on the island, it was the ancient capital of Minorca. Its classical buildings are well preserved, and there is a fashionable harbour area, where the tapas bars serve a cheap selection of local dishes.

In 1558, Ciudadela was devastated when 150 Turkish ships, carrying 15,000 troops, under the command of Piali, Barbarossa's successor, sailed into the port. After *nine days of fighting, the city fell.* Its 3,500 inhabitants, including the Spanish governor, were taken back to Constantinople as slaves.

When a new governor arrived in Ciudadela, there were no houses left standing, and he had to spend his first night in a cave. But the city was rebuilt, and many of the captives returned home after ransoms had been paid for their release. Mosquitoes notwithstanding, I would gladly go back too.

● *Our two-bedroom villa slept four/five and shared a pool with an adjoining villa. For a two-week holiday prices range from £253 per adult in low season, including flight, to £393 in the high season. There are reductions for children. Beach Villas, 8 Market Passage, Cambridge, CB2 3QR (0223 311113), supplies a food pack on arrival and offers car hire at about £135 a week for a small Fiat. Landscapes of* Minorca *costs £9.50 (inc. P&P) from Sunflower Books, 12 Kendrick Mews, London, SW7 3GH (071-589 1862).*

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Fight the flab

A weekend of healthy living can ease away the winter's excess

The mother of all hangovers prompted me to book a weekend at Sopwell House Hotel and Country Club, in Hertfordshire. That and February flab.

Physical salvation turned out to be closer at hand than I had expected. It takes 30 minutes by train from London to St Albans, followed by a swift taxi ride the mile and a half to the hotel.

Friendly staff plucked my sister and me from the taxi and poured us into a comfortable twin-bedded room, whose Georgian windows overlooked the golf course. It was furnished in Edwardian fashion, but there was nothing old-fashioned about the bathroom, with its heated towel-rails and marble floor.

Dinner in the Magnolia Conservatory Restaurant was *delicious and beautifully pre-*sented, although the portions were rather small.

On Saturday, we breakfasted late in Bejerano's Brasserie, a bright airy room in art-deco style overlooking the pool, terrace and gardens. During the day, light meals are served here, with an emphasis on vegetarian and calorie-controlled dishes.

After breakfast, a swim in the deliciously warm 15m ozone-treated, chlorine-free pool set me up for a session in the steam room, followed by my first treatment — reflexology (£30). An hour later, I was convinced of the revitalising effect of the treatment. I felt cleansed and calm.

Over lunch, a huge salad. I swapped notes with my sister, who had chosen Thalgo hydrotherapy (£25) for her first treatment. After a salt body-rub, she was painted with green sludge (marine algae), wrapped in a hot towel, then hosed down. "Totally sybaritic," she sighed.

I worked hard at relaxing that afternoon. Sixty lengths in the pool, a plunge in the foaming spa bath, followed by a steam bath and sauna. My second treatment was an all-over aromatherapy massage (£35).

Our evening meal of French onion soup, a ravioli duvet stuffed with salmon, and lemon tart all lived up to expectations, as did the chablis.

On Sunday, I headed for the fitness studio, while my sister succumbed to a sunbed. Sopwell's airy gym is equipped with the latest equipment, and superior exercise bicycles that offer a computerised view of the countryside through which *you are not speeding.*

Instructors from sports-science backgrounds can advise on all aspects of lifestyle, including diet. Stress-monitoring consultations and a "lifestyle evaluation" analysis are offered, but I balked at what they might reveal.

After lunch, a bitterly cold wind sent us scurrying to the warm cocoon of the spa for the rest of the afternoon, before returning to London.

The next day, I woke with a clear head, feeling fresh and fit. The combination of relaxation, exercise and healthy eating had done the trick. Rejuvenated? I felt reborn.

NICOLE SWENGLEY

● *A two-night break, including breakfast and dinner, costs from £132 per person sharing a double room. Sopwell House Hotel and Country Club, Cottonmill Lane, Sopwell, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 2HUZ (0727 864477). Healthy Breaks Guide, compiled by Catherine Beattie and published by Discovery Books in association with the National Tourist Board, costs £8.99 from book stores.*

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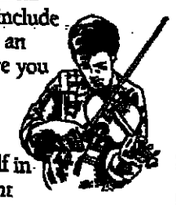
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Inside every fluffy lambkin there lurks an adolescent vandal

I was driving down the lane towards the farm and spotted what looked like an isolated flurry of fresh white snow. As I approached it became clear that the snowy mass was on the move and heading in my direction.

It was no meteorological freak; a dozen lambs had decided that they were of sufficient age to leave their mother's side and had elected the lane an adventure playground. The bottom rail of the yard gate is of exactly the right height for a lamb to wriggle its agile little body under it. They have it down to a fine art and can squirm their way through, hardly touching the wood; lambo-dancing, I call it.

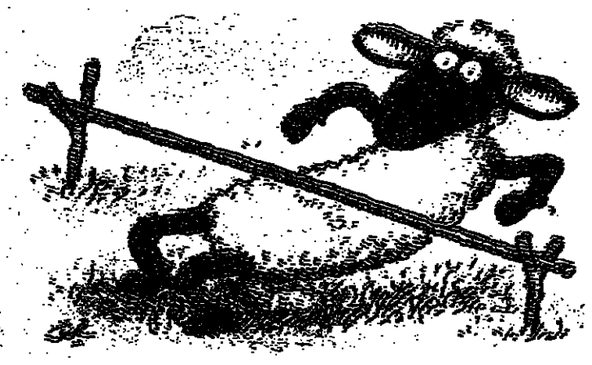
I was barely out of the car before they spotted me and fled, as fast as confused lambs can, back to their mothers' apron-strings. Some just dived for it, others were overcome by shock, so brains did not connect with limbs: front legs were trying to sprint while hind feet were anchored to the mud. Never mind, I thought, heading for the workshop and a length of wire-netting, they will soon grow out of it and become as pudding-like as their mothers. It is just a phase they are going through: not quite tender little lambs, but not properly grown up either.



So I take issue with a distinguished professorial study at an American university which was examining the sociological significance of adolescence in human beings and came to the conclusion that "adolescence... has been a key ingredient in humanity's evolutionary success... and it exists in *no other animal species*, not even apes". I do not know which particular animals the good professor has been studying, but if he would like to come and spend a day on this farm, he will find it stuffed with animals all of which have turned adolescent behaviour into an art form.

Take Alice's latest litter of pigs. For the first few weeks they were timid and coy. Enter the sty with the feed bucket and they would whimper at your approaching shadow and, for protection, form a piggy little pyramid in the corner. They were without doubt childish. Within a couple of months they will be well into their adulthood, spend most of the day asleep except at feeding times, and only take the occasional exercise by pottering around the field rooting for the odd worm.

But look at them now. They are bursting with life, developing strength they do not know what to



do with, and when I open the door to feed them they come at me like the Jets surrounding Officer Krupke in *West Side Story*. Their cheeky little snouts are into every crevice in the wall, nuzzling away at the mortar, pulling bricks out for pleasure. To fulfil their adolescent vandalistic ambitions I have even considered buying a second-hand bus shelter for them to wreck, or a phone box to rip up.

Prince, our youngest cart-horse, is going through his in-between years too. Working cart-horses spend the first two years of their lives slowly growing up. At two, they are gently broken to harness and then given no work for a further two years to allow their bones and muscles to develop. At four, they are reschooled to remind them of the lessons of two years ago, and then put to work. They do not behave like unpredictable colts, but certainly not like fully-grown cart-horses either. Prince is without doubt adolescent.

We have recently been using him for some gentle work with the harrows, and although he obeys commands, stands still when told and pulls as much as he is able, he has none of the placid dignity of his older workmates. He throws his head in a juvenile way to see what is happening all around him. A mere "g'up" will have him leaping into his collar with enthusiasm, while his more ploddy partner has learnt to take his time.

Do not tell me that heifers do not display adolescent characteristics, or I will ask you to spend an hour in the yard with one at that certain time of the month when the virgin young cow seeks a male companion and is unable to find one. In open fields, heifers will ruthlessly destroy hedges, fences and gates if they think there might be a bull on the other side. If they had underwear, they would start throwing it on-stage when the bull appeared, like early Tom Jones fans. Cows with calves do not bother so much: they have long since learnt where all that lust leads.

However, I have to say that we have the answer to all this youthful behaviour — one any government might envy. Very soon the grass will grow again and the stock will leave the yard for the meadows. I shall put up the electric fences, turn the power to high and let the short, sharp shock curb any adolescent behaviour.

Feather report

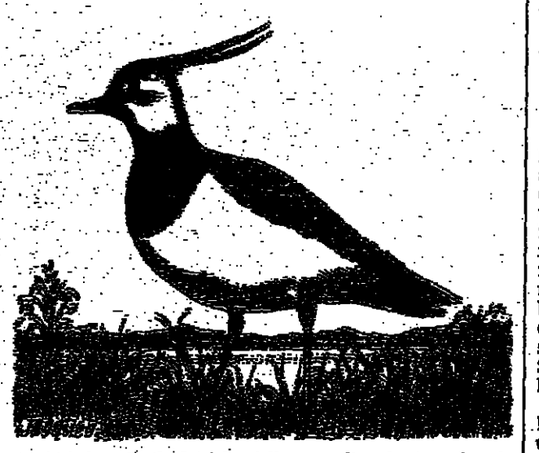
Love is on the wing

Over the fields there is a new sound: the call of the lapwings, displaying. They are back from their winter wanderings, and the males are tumbling and diving over their territories. Birds of open spaces with no high perches to sit on almost always sing and display in the sky; that is why the skylarks are also singing high in the air.

Another common name for the lapwing is peewit, which is, in sound, a good imitation of its call. The note is heard all year round, but takes on a new character in these spring gyrations. The bird rises slowly from the ground on its curious, rounded wings, then climbs abruptly, calling with a long, plaintive "pee-weet-weet". Suddenly it lets itself fall, twisting, and even somersaulting, as it comes down, and calls again more sharply. As it falls, it is a swirl of black and white, for it is black above, and white beneath the inner wing and on the underparts. Before it lands it straightens up and makes a low humming sound with its wings.

On the ground, in the sunshine, the bird shows why it has yet another name: the green plover, because it has a green sheen on the black back. Altogether it is a striking bird, with its long crest and its black gorget, standing erect in the field. When it feeds, it tilts its whole body forward, revealing a patch of orange under its tail.

The sky display warns off other male lapwings and attracts a female. When a female lands in the territory, the male courts her by running towards her with head and neck stretched forward and the crest lowered. He also makes scrapes in the ground, pressing his chest into the earth and scratching with his feet. It is as though he were showing her their potential home together. Indeed, if they pair up, one of these scrapes will be chosen as the nest and lined with dry grass.



Crested beauty: the lapwing (alias peewit and green plover)

Lapwings are early breeders, and the four mottled eggs, arranged in the shape of a cross, may be laid before the end of March.

There are other plovers in some fields: golden plovers. But these are flocks of wintering birds waiting for warmer weather before they return to the moors to nest. They are hard to see on a ploughed field; sometimes you first detect them when one lifts a wing, showing its white underside. Their dark backs are spangled with gold, and they stand very upright, with their rather square heads held high. They have large, soft eyes and a dainty bill. Their call is a single liquid whistle.

Plovers are members of the great wader family, and when golden plovers fly up they look more like typical waders than the floppy-winged lapwings. They cut through the air on sharp wings in close formation, then spread out as they glide in and land again.

Another new call in the meadows, or among lines of growing corn, is a loud "chukka-chukka". This is the spring call of the French, or red-legged, partridge, which is now more often seen than the common, or grey, partridge in some parts of the country. It is a larger bird than the ordinary partridge, but you need a good view to see its fine markings.

Apart from its red legs and beak, it has rich barring on the flanks, blue on the chest, a black border to its white throat and orange-brown upper parts. When alarmed, it is more inclined to run than the common partridge, which goes off on whirring wings.

With skylark song cascading from the sky, lapwings crying, yellowhammers singing in the hedges, partridges calling and lambs bleating, there is a lot to be heard in the fields as the spring equinox draws near.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — look out for sand martins by gravel pits and lakes. Twitchers — Ross's gull, Inverness, Scotland; white-throated sparrow at Market Rasen, Lincolnshire. Details from Birdline, 0898 700222. Calls cost 36p per minute cheap rate, 48p per minute at all other times.*

In history's grassbox

Clive Fewins meets the lawnmower men as the mowing season begins

Sharpen the blades, it's mowing time once more. Each spring members of The Old Lawnmower Club gear up for action to see how many ancient machines in their respective collections they can coax into working order. While most of us might possess one mower, or two at most, club members own on average between six and 20 machines each, while serious enthusiasts such as Brian Radham of Southport in Lancashire, have hundreds of machines.

A couple of years ago, Mr Radham, 42, converted the upstairs of his ironmongery and lawnmower-repair business into the British Lawnmower Museum. "At the last count there were about 100 machines on display, all in perfect working order, and a further 200 in store awaiting renovation," he says.

Mr Radham's collection is extensive but not exhaustive. Arch rivals Andrew Hall, from Wimbledon, southwest London, and Mike Duck, from Ilminster in Somerset, decided ten years ago that co-operation beats competition and merged their collections. At the last count, their old chicken sheds near Ilminster housed some 675 mowers. Now the Hall and Duck headquarters is the mecca for hardcore members of the 150-strong Old Lawnmower Club. Among many rarities, it contains a Ransomes' 1907 water-cooled ride-on mower that, at three-quarters of a ton, is probably the heaviest machine in the business.

> 'There is a debate on which came first: the lawnmower or the lawn'

Mr Hall and Mr Duck are restoring an early steam-powered lawnmower made by Thomas Green of Leeds that dates from 1903. They have some 30 mowers designed to be pulled by a pony, and a two-man mower dating from 1870 that they hope will be in full working order for the club's first big event of the year, a rally at the Milton Keynes Museum of Industry and Rural Life on May 16.

This event, which will draw enthusiasts from all over the country, is run by Keith Wootton, who founded the club in 1990 and maintains the collection at the Milton Keynes museum. Mr Wootton also edits the quarterly newsletter, *Grassbox*, which promotes the club's aims of encouraging the discovery, restoration and preservation of early machines.

All this seems a far cry from the motorbiking scene. But, though old lawnmowers lack the speed and design flair of old motorbikes, there is much common ground between their collectors. Mr Wootton explains: "Many machines share the same engine manufacturer — Villiers and Royal Enfield, to name but two."

The oldest mower known to the club dates from soon after 1830. This was the magical year in which the lawnmower was invented by Edwin Beard Budding, an engineer from Stroud. The idea came to him after he saw a machine used to trim the nap from cloth.

Today there are only four known examples of early Budding machines — at the Stroud Museum, London's Science Museum, the Museum of English Rural Life at Reading university, and at the Milton Keynes museum. The youngest of the four was found by chance six years ago on a scrap heap in Rugby.

"All of us would love to discover an early Budding, or a steam-powered machine," Mr Wootton says. "I'd be amazed if there were not a few still in existence — probably in a dark corner of some forgotten garden shed."

This is exactly the sort of place where the most interesting examples in the Hall and Duck collection have turned up. Although the pair paid a three-figure sum for a 1905 Ransome petrol-driven model (the oldest known example of its kind), most old mowers change hands for negligible sums.

"Many people are content to part with their machine to an enthusiast who they know will try to maintain it in good order," Mr Wootton says. "Usually they have only kept it as a spare, or because it is a piece of fine engineering and deserves better than being taken to the tip."

Antique lawnmowers have a keen following among gardeners as well as engineering buffs and even social historians — who speculate on the part played by the lawnmower in the days of yore.

"There is a debate among members about which really came first: the lawnmower or the lawn," Mr Wootton says. "The mower was undoubtedly invented for selling to the owners of the large country houses of the 1830s, with their established lawns." But development of the mower led to a rash of lawns around the country, especially after the first world war, when detached and semi-detached houses with small gardens began to elbow out the terrace houses.

"The very existence of the lawnmower encouraged the British love of sport. Thanks to this machine, British cricket fields, bowling greens, tennis courts, croquet lawns and games fields became the best in the world, and the British the world's greatest sportsmen. If only it could have lasted..."

● *The Old Lawnmower Society, c/o Milton Keynes Museum of Industry and Rural Life, Stacey Hill Farm, Southern Way, Wolverton, Milton Keynes, MK12 5EJ (0908 316222).*

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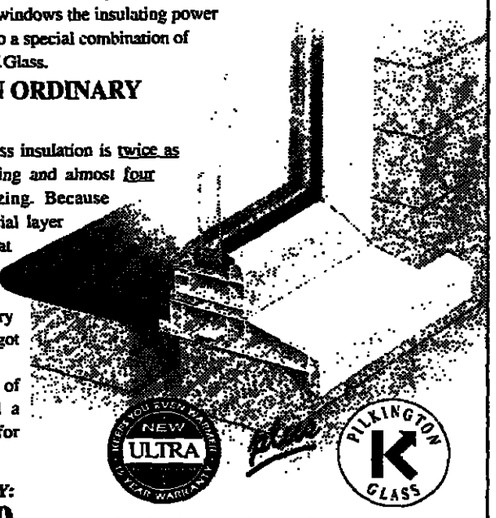
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ENTERTAINING AT HOME: *Naim Attallah*

Healthy appetite for invention

'I look upon olive oil as a vintage, as a wine. When I can find it, I get an oil that hasn't been refined, that's fresh and thick'

TIM BISHOP



Years ago, when I started Quartet Books, we used to entertain a lot, and after dinner some of the guests would say to my wife: "That's very nice. Can Naim give us the recipe?" And she'd say: "No ... because every time he does that recipe it tastes different, as he uses different ingredients. And he doesn't measure anything."

I'm an improviser, otherwise I become very bored, which is why I have to do lots of things in my life to keep my interest.

It's the same with cooking. I always need to create something new for people. Sometimes I'm successful, sometimes not, but if you don't make mistakes you never learn. I never read recipe books. I prefer to invent things. The important thing is the palate. When I'm cooking, I take a spoon and taste and I'll say, 'Mmmm, it needs more pepper', or whatever. That's how you get the perfect flavour.

I find total relaxation in cooking. I am very selective in what I do and serve only healthy food. I rarely fry things: I steam them instead, but they're very tasty because I always use a lot of herbs.

As you get older, you appreciate everything more. When you're young, you eat fast foods, you want the hamburger. You drink bottles of wine, but it's all plonk. At my age, it's enough to have one glass of, say, Cheval Blanc; it's like nectar from heaven. I love wine, but it has to be a good wine, a vintage wine.

In the same way I look upon olive oil as a vintage, as a wine. Whenever I can find it, I get an oil that hasn't been refined, that's fresh and thick with great depth and big flavour. Mostly that sort of oil comes from Tuscany. Wherever I go, I am always looking in food shops for olive oil.

Nowadays, I find that because I see so many people during the day, I don't always want to see more people when I get home in the evening. Just as an Englishman's home is his castle, so home is very private to us. Most of our entertaining is done at our house in France, in the Dordogne. I love to go there; it is my biggest joy. When we take somebody with us, I never let them into the kitchen. I like to serve them everything. I lay the table and do the purchasing and the cooking. I consider women — mostly because I'm not very good with men — to be princesses. I want to do everything for them. It's my biggest kick.

When I'm in France I find I'm doing something interesting all the time, yet I am not under pressure. There are so many markets where I can buy everything fresh. How can you resist, when you see beautiful tomatoes? You buy not one kilo but two. It is in France that I particularly like to experiment with recipes. For instance, the woman I buy the tomatoes from also has every shape and kind of courgette, many of them wild ones. I think. What I like to do is steam them, add some crushed fresh garlic, lots of lemon juice and herb salt. With salad and wholemeal bread this is a meal I could eat forever.

I like food that you can eat to your heart's delight and you don't put on an ounce. You shouldn't torture your body. I hate tortured food: you know, when you go to a famous restaurant and you get those heavy sauces that give you indigestion, and afterwards you feel awful. Good eating should always be enjoyable and now, on a Sunday, instead of a roast, we eat fish or chicken.

Naim Attallah's improvisational chicken recipe

serves 6

chopped white onions

pumpkin oil

1 chicken, with fat and skin removed

herb salt (*I make my own*)

good sprinkling of saffron

a little water

Jamaican arrowroot (you can find this at Fortnum & Mason)

vegetable yeast

Put the chopped white onions on the bottom of a large pan and add six or seven drops of pumpkin oil (unrefined oil is best, you can buy it in health-food shops) and cook gently. Cut up the chicken, put it in the pan and sprinkle the herb salt and saffron on top. Add a little water and start cooking (or steaming) it.

Mix a teaspoon of arrowroot in, say, one big cup of cold water, and stir until it all becomes white. Pour over the mixture.

Next, mix a little vegetable yeast with hot water and pour that over, too. Allow to simmer for about 45 minutes.

Serve with steamed vegetables and a mixture of brown and jet black Indian wild rice (or just the brown rice). Add a few drops of olive oil to the water when cooking rice, so that it doesn't stick to the pan.

Interview by Paddy Burt

● *Naim Attallah is group chief executive of Asprey, managing director of Mappin & Webb and Watches of Switzerland, executive director of Garrard, proprietor of Quartet Books, and author of* Women, Singular Encounters *and* Of a Certain Age.

Land of milk and hypocrisy

THE richer you are, the more likely you are to buy skimmed and semi-skimmed milk, because you are cutting down on fat for the good of your health. But the richer you are the more likely you are to buy the cream that was taken from your low-fat milk. You are also more likely to buy prepared foods — expensive carton soups, higher-priced ready meals, yummy enriched yoghurts — that contain cream. "Contains real cream!" is a potent selling line.

We are all self-deluding when it comes to food, but when it comes to milk the only word is hypocrisy.

FOOD SPY

Spurning your cream and eating it



The cream the dairy trade takes from wholemilk (their term for full cream milk) is all sold to us in one form or another. The one advantage is that the price of cream and butter does not go up much. But since we pay the same price for wholemilk, skimmed and semi-skimmed milk — about 28p a pint in supermarkets, slightly more from your friendly doorstep milkman — we are financing this price stability ourselves.

The success of low-fat milk in Britain has been rapid. Over five or six years sales have leapt ahead. Today 42 per cent of milk used at home is low-fat, and most of that is semi-skimmed. (Wholemilk contains 3.9 per cent cream, skimmed almost none and semi-skimmed 1.6 per cent).

The truth is that we seem to be developing a taste for semi-skimmed milk. Karen Leech, of the National Dairy Council, accepts that we began drinking semi-skimmed for health reasons. "But", she says, "our research shows that semi-skimmed milk has developed a taste premium. People prefer the taste of it to wholemilk, both for drinking neat and especially in tea. They simply find it more refreshing, cleaner tasting."

Milk consumption generally is falling slightly, by about 0.5 per cent a year. The fall would be greater but for demographics. The 40-65 age group is drinking less for health reasons, but this is balanced by the relatively large number of children under 15 in the present population. Oddly the oldest age group, senior citizens, drink the most, almost four and a half pints a week each — nearly all of it full cream — compared with less than three pints for those who earn the most.

In fashion terms, cow's milk has had a switchback career. From the 1920s to the 1970s, it was the perfect food, providing balanced fat and protein, vitamins A, D, and B complex and calcium. It was a builder of bonny babies, a fighter of rickets, a maker of strong teeth and bones. When Margaret Thatcher as health minister took it away from schoolchildren, she was branded the "milk snatcher", denying children their dietary rights.

But in the later 1970s and mid-1980s — when the cholesterol scare was at its height — the fat in milk became a killer, a causer of coronaries. The miracle food had become a menace.

Finally, in the saner 1990s, standard medical opinion regards this white fluid as just another food, a pleasant drink and an affordable source of the nutrients we need — if we don't overdo the cream at the top. We have reacted by choosing the semi-skimmed option. And eating the cream in other ways.

FRANK JEFFERY

A comic cut above the rest

ALAN WELLER



Live stock-in-trade jokes: the Harpers hold taste-and-try evenings at the shop in Studham, Bedfordshire, which include Mr Harper's stand-up comedy routine

Fiona Beckett visits a family butcher with a show-business approach to keeping the customer satisfied and well fed

Half past seven on a cold, dark winter evening, and in the small Bedfordshire village of Studham an audience of 60 is assembled at the local butcher's shop. Lined up before them is the Harper family, ready to present one of its regular "taste-and-try" evenings.

Tonight the theme is Caribbean cruising — an opportunity to sample three different dishes with matching wines. In fact, the recipes are not particularly Caribbean, but what the heck. The regulars have come to see the show.

T. Harper & Son is no normal village butcher's shop. As well as a demonstration room, it has a café and a car-park the size of a school playground. In addition to meat, it sells cheese, wine, frozen vegetables, desserts (including a gâteau called "Louisiana Lovebite") and fish, including lobster. There is not a carcass to be seen in the immaculately clean shop.

The Harpers themselves are a cross between the Larkins and the Archers. There is Peter Harper, jolly paterfamilias, his wife Sally, son Roly, daughter Judy Burbury and a supporting cast of regulars, including shop manager Wendy Rowland, who good-humouredly plays the stooge to Mr Harper's stand-up comic.

"Taste-and-try evenings began as part of our regular policy of listening to our customers," Mr Harper says. "A lady came up to me and said, 'Mr Harper, I wonder if I could have a word with you about my husband.' I said, 'Love, he's your problem.' 'No,' she said, 'You don't understand. He's square. He won't try anything new. When he takes me out to dinner, he starts with prawn cocktail, then he always has steak and finishes up with Black Forest gâteau.' Ladies, do you recognise this man?" (*Sympathetic murmurs of assent.*) "Because I'm one."

The Harpers' world is full of unreconstructed men and their frustrated wives, all of whom are miraculously made to feel Mr Harper is on their side. As he grumbles on about serving rice with meat ("I thought it was supposed to have jam with it") and strange "bits" in the food, the rest of the team merrily whip up a selection of dishes designed to persuade Dad (and of course the audience) that the old ways are not necessarily the best.

The jollity conceals an extremely sophisticated sales pitch. Mr Harper's aversion to "grotty bits" gives him an opportunity to mention that all their meat is carefully trimmed of gristle and fat. The inclusion of a stir-fry leads to a discussion of the advantages of woks, sold, Mrs Burbury says, by such department stores as John Lewis and Debenhams (and, yes, by Harper's too). At the end of the evening there is the opportunity to raid the shop.

The meat is neatly packed and frozen in shopper-friendly portions. The range is huge, from goose breasts and ready-stuffed joints to home-made meatballs, burgers and sausages, tailor-made for families. The Harpers launch about 30 or 40 lines a year and have developed a range for Harrods.

If Mr Harper's approach to the increasingly beleaguered world of butchery is innovative today, it was revolutionary when he started 20 years ago. "Nowadays, the motive for buying food is not hunger. You have to find a way to satisfy customers' actual needs," he says.

Market research has revealed that the Harpers' customers are mainly the well-heeled of 45 and over. "They've got rid of their kids and their mortgage, and they deserve the right to eat well," says Mr Harper. "They're eating less, but better."

Few other butchers could tell you that a third of their customers come from more than 30 miles away and that their average spend is between £70 and £80. Eighty-five per cent of Harper's business is done on the telephone. Regular customers are kept on a computer database, which details their past orders. From time to time (they can specify how often), they are rung by the irrepressible Mrs Burbury to tell them about new products they might like to try.

The Harpers' success also stems from good old-fashioned service. Customers can ring Mrs Harper for advice or recipes. They can bring their knives in to be sharpened free of charge. Once they have been in, they are remembered. "We came to buy some meat just before Christmas, and they recognised us tonight," says Tony Fuller, who has travelled 15 miles from Stevenage.

The taste-and-try evenings are already heavily booked until Christmas, but Mr Harper will organise demonstrations on request.

Here is one of the Caribbean recipes.

Roast pork calypso

(serves 8 to 10)

5-6lb rindless loin of pork with the fat scored in a diamond pattern

½ tsp ground black pepper

1 tsp salt

1 tsp ground ginger

½ tsp ground cloves

2 garlic cloves, crushed

2 crumbled bay leaves

1 pt chicken stock

8fl oz dark Jamaican rum

4oz brown sugar

juice of ½ lemon or orange.

Rub scored fat with dry spice mixture (pepper, salt, ginger, cloves and garlic) and lay crumbled bay leaves on top. Wrap and leave overnight in the refrigerator. Place meat on rack in roasting tin, pour round the stock and roast in a pre-heated oven (150C/gas mark 3) for 30 minutes a lb. Make a sauce of the rum, brown sugar and juice and brush the meat during cooking. Serve hot or cold.

● *T. Harper & Son Ltd, Bell Farm, Dunstable Road, Studham, nr Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 2QG (0582 872001). Open Mon-Thurs 9am-5pm, Fri 9am-8pm, Sat 9am-4.30pm, Sun 10am-2pm.*

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News on the eating-out scene, from the Peak District to Kent

RESTAURANT WATCH

LUCKY STAR
Read's
Painter's Forstal, Faversham, Kent (0795 535344)
David Pitchford does not know which to thank more for the change in his business fortunes: Lenny Henry's BBC2 series, *Chef!*, or an unexpected Michelin star ("after 17 years we had given up hope"). Whatever the cause, whereas at new year he and his wife Rona were gloomily facing the prospect of laying off staff, now they are recruiting another full-timer instead. Open Tuesday to Saturday, 12-2pm and 7-10pm. Set lunch £14.50, dinner £29.

MABEY FOREVER
Regatta
171-173 High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk (0728 452011)
Ebullient Robert Mabey, who had a Michelin star at Hintlesham Hall near Ipswich, has now taken over and refitted the Regatta, which had been closed for ten months. From Easter the wine bar will be operating as an oysterage, while the restaurant changes to the brasserie style he popularised at Mabey's Brasserie in Gainsborough Street, Sudbury. That re-opens after renovations and enlargement on Tuesday. Deputy Laurence Clifford, whom Mabey recruited three years ago from the Ritz, is in charge. Allow £18 to £20 a head at either place.

PEAK FITNESS
Bridge End Restaurant
7 Church Street, Hayfield, Derbyshire (0663 747321)
Hygiene should be assured here, at the edge of the Peak District: proprietress Barbara Tier was an environmental health officer before she and her town planning consultant husband, Geoffrey, launched this venture, at the worst possible time. Despite all, they have struggled through to become the *Good Food Guide*'s County Restaurant of the Year, and now attract customers from Stockport and Manchester. Chef Jonathan Holmes has previously cooked in London, Manchester and Sydney. Sunday lunches, about £17, start on Easter Sunday, as a new addition to dinners Tuesday to Saturday, 7.30-10pm, which cost £25 to £30 a head.

LANTERNS OUT
Red
8 Egerton Garden Mews, London SW3 (071-584 7007)
Lower the Red lantern. This new-style and youthfully inclined Chinese restaurant promises no lanterns, no chicken chow mein, no MSG. Instead the chef, fresh from China, specialises in "milk fritters", aromatic crispy lamb and lotus rice. Cabaret revues Sunday and Monday nights. Pianist and *chanteuse* with Sunday lunch. Expect to pay £23 a head, but for a limited period there is a special set lunch on offer at £5.

ONE FOR KIDS
PJ's Grill
30 Wellington Street, London WC2 (071-240 7529)
PJ's Grill, the Covent Garden restaurant which inadvertently flambéed itself recently, re-opened this week and from next Saturday launches its weekend Uncle PJ's Fun Club for children. On Saturday and Sunday there will be a special, fresh and additive-free children's menu (£3.95 main course), a supervised play-area with entertainers, and for mums and babies "a multi-sensory play environment". Nappy changing/feeding room available. For adults: New York style grill food (about £15 a head). Fun Club 11am-5pm Saturdays and Sundays. Grill hours: midday to midnight, Monday to Friday, and 11am to midnight on Saturday.

ROBIN YOUNG

Celebrate la dolce vita

Frances Bissell prepares an Italian-style feast of fresh pasta and succulent pork



TODAY'S recipes combine to make a celebration meal, Italian style. By no means reliant on expensive ingredients or complicated techniques, the meal can be prepared in stages to fit around your own schedule. The pudding can be prepared the day before, as can the bread. The pork can be seasoned and rolled a day in advance. Salads and vegetables can be prepared in the morning and assembled or cooked at the last minute. The only dish that needs to be prepared not long before cooking is the pasta, and as that is the highlight of the meal, it is well worth the small effort.

I have always liked sweet and savoury combinations, and until recently my favourite stuffed pasta was the one from Emilia Romagna, filled with pumpkin, cheese, almonds and *amaretti*. Now I am not so sure. *krafi*, a speciality from Istria and northeast Italy, is sometimes called "wedding pasta", as it is served on such occasions. The sweetness of the dish is said to promote a harmonious marriage.

Lidia Bastianich, a lovely lady and fine cook, introduced me to this delicacy. This was the dish that stood out from many other excellent ones in Felidia, the restaurant she and her husband, Felix, own in Manhattan.

What better way to accompany an Italian dinner than with authentic Italian bread, served with green salad and cheese before the pudding, or with *prosciutto* before the pasta. I have had a number of requests for a *ciabatta* recipe, but I am only now satisfied that I have one worth passing on. I am grateful to Lynda Brown for pointing me towards the three key elements: little yeast, long proving, and almost equal proportions of liquid and flour.

You can mix the dough in the food processor in the morning, let it prove all day, and then bake it just before dinner. It is disconcerting dough to work with at first, as it is so soft. And it is quite miraculous how, when you turn it out on the baking sheet for a final proving, it naturally flops into the authentic slipper or *ciabatta* shape.

It is said to keep well for up to five days, but we have always eaten it at home as soon as it is cool enough to slice. Even if you do not make bread as a rule, try this recipe.

Ciabatta

(makes an 8in/20cm loaf)

½lb/230g strong plain flour
scant ½ tsp easy blend (fast action) yeast
5tbsp extra virgin olive oil
½ tsp salt
about ½ pt/200ml hand-hot water

Mix the ingredients by hand or, using the dough blade attachment of the food processor, briefly spin the flour and yeast together. With the motor on, add the oil, salt and enough water to make a firm batter or loose dough. The texture is right when it is sticky but not wet, and sticks to itself rather than your hands. Process for a minute, scraping the dough from the sides. Ms Brown's suggestion is that you then put the feed tube in the lid to provide a seal, and leave the dough for at least three hours, preferably six or longer. I have done it this way, and it works perfectly, but I prefer to wash the food processor bowl and get it out of the way, so I scrape the dough into a large bowl, warmed first with hot water, so as not to cool the dough too rapidly. Cover with clingfilm, or put inside a large polythene bag and seal.

Have a non-stick baking sheet or Swiss-roll tray ready, and gently ease the dough with a rolling motion on to it. Flouring the hands first helps. Dust the top with flour, and leave to prove for 30 to 40 minutes. The dough will not rise much at this stage but just plump out a little. Preheat the oven to 220C/425F, gas mark 7, and bake the loaf for about 30 minutes until golden brown and hollow-sounding. During baking, the loaf will puff up considerably.

You can use a food processor for the pasta dough in the next recipe, or make it by hand. Mrs Bastianich serves her *krafi* with a rich veal sauce, but she says it is just as good served with melted, unsalted butter, freshly grated Parmesan and freshly ground black pepper. Make sure there is plenty of gravy for the main course, and spoon a little of it over the pasta.

Krafi

(serves 8)

Pasta

12oz/340g strong plain flour
2oz/60g fine semolina
pinch of salt
3 whole free-range eggs, plus one yolk

If you're not using a food processor, which allows all the ingredients to be mixed together, sift the flour, semolina and salt into a mound. Make a well in the centre, and slide in the eggs. Work into a dough with your fingertips, kneading for a few minutes, and form into a ball. Depending on the absorbency of the flour and humidity in the atmosphere, you may need to add a little water or flour to achieve a smooth, elastic dough. Cover with clingfilm, and let it rest while you prepare the filling.

Filling

3oz/85g sultanas
2 tbsp dark rum
2 free-range eggs
pinch of salt
1¼ tsp caster sugar
¾lb/340g Fontina or other mild cheese, shredded
¼lb/100g fresh Parmesan, grated
3oz/85g fresh breadcrumbs
½ tsp grated lemon zest
½ tsp grated orange zest

Soak the sultanas in rum. In a large bowl beat the eggs, salt and sugar. Stir in the rest of the ingredients, and mix well.

To assemble the krafi, divide the dough into three parts, and roll out each part to form a rectangle about 1/16in thick. If using a pasta machine, pass the dough through successively narrower openings, ending with the next-to-thinnest setting. Keep the remaining dough covered while working each portion.

Set the rolled dough on a work surface with the long side facing you and spoon the filling on to the upper farthest half, by the tablespoonful, at 3in/7.5cm intervals. Lightly moisten the dough with water along the edges and around the mounds of filling. Fold the unfilled bottom half of dough over the top, aligning the borders, and press around the mounds and along the edges to seal. Using a 2¾in/7cm round pastry cutter, stamp out the *krafi*. Press each filled portion lightly to release any air pockets, check the edges to be sure they are completely sealed, and set the *krafi* on a floured cloth. Repeat the procedure until the filling is used up.

Boil the *krafi* in a large pot of salted water until *al dente* but cooked through (six to eight minutes). With this dish, I would agree with Mrs Bastianich's suggestion and serve a crisp wine from Friuli.

In Tuscany joints of pork are pot-roasted in milk. A loin is well suited to this unusual treatment. Potato *gnocchi* or creamy mashed potatoes and garlic are good accompaniments. The meat can be flavoured with the seeds or the feathery tops of fennel.

Milk roast pork

(serves 8, plus leftovers for sandwiches)

4-5lb/1.8-2.3k loin of free-range pork
6 cloves of garlic, peeled and sliced
generous sprig of rosemary
salt
freshly ground black pepper
1 onion, peeled and sliced
2pt/1.15l milk

Ask your butcher to bone and skin the pork. Crush half the garlic and some of the rosemary leaves with a little salt and pepper. Sprinkle this mixture on the cut side, roll the loin up, and tie it at intervals.

Cut the remaining garlic into slivers, and push them into the fat and crevices in the meat, together with some needles of rosemary. Slice the onion, and put it in the bottom of a large casserole, together with the pork skin and chopped up bones, to add flavour. Fry the piece of meat all over in a non-stick frying pan, and place in the casserole. Season a little more, and add the rest of the sprig of rosemary. Cover, and cook in a hot oven, preheated to 220C/425F, gas mark 7, for 20 to 30 minutes or so, during which time you can bake the *ciabatta*.

Remove the casserole from the oven, pour in milk, cover, and put back in the oven. Turn down to 160C/325F, gas mark 3, and leave for another 1½ to 2 hours.

Transfer the pork to a carving dish, and keep it warm for 10 to 15 minutes before carving. Remove the bones and skin from the pot, and spoon the sauce into a heated jug, skimming off what fat you can. Chianti Classico is the wine to serve with the pork, or if you can afford it, one of the super Tuscans.

Something light and fresh tasting, rather than a tiramisu, suggests itself to finish this rich meal. As an excuse to serve one of the delightful orange muscat dessert wines, I would make a simple salad of peeled, sliced mixed oranges and pour a little of the wine over them.

DIANA LEADBETTER





Return of a Californian exile

The zinfandel is asserting its position as a first-class grape, **Jane MacQuitty** reports



Bottled Californian sun: zinfandel wines are keenly priced

Having tried to bury zinfandel in the 1980s, Californian wine makers are now staging a comeback for this versatile red wine grape. This has meant an increase from 21,000 acres planted to zinfandel in 1982 to 34,000 in 1992. Zinfandel, along with the rather more internationally admired cabernet sauvignon, is now the most planted red-wine grape in California.

In the past decade it has become slowly accepted that this variety is not a poor, indigenous California relation to classy, well-travelled French varieties, but a first-class red-wine grape in its own right. Cabernet sauvignon, pinot noir and merlot all have sizeable California plantings and an even bigger reputation, but the underestimated zinfandel has the biggest potential.

Zinfandel's reputation both benefits and suffers because of the many different styles of wine that can be made from this grape. White, red, pink, dry, sweet, fizzy and fortified wines are made using zinfandel as a base. Similarly, even red zinfandel wines range from light, berry fruit gluggers to dark, brooding, heavily alcoholic and hefty table wines.

One of zinfandel's least distinguished California guises is the rough, baked, beefy, Central Valley red jug wines. I am also none too keen on the light, sweet, ersatz pink — often suspiciously blue-pink — "white zinfandels", popular in California, but not here.

Thick, sweet, raisiny, port-style, late-harvest zinfandels also take some getting used to, and are probably not for rarified European palates.

Despite these less-than-lovely wine styles, there are plenty of versions to enthuse over. Good, straightforward, restrained examples include Fetzer's spicy, elegant 1990 vintage, with oodles of bramble fruit and a judicious touch of oak. At £4.99 from Oddbins and Safeway, this zinfandel is probably the best value California red available in Britain. On the same level is Robert Mondavi's delicious 1991 Woodbridge Red Zinfandel, from his large Central Valley, winery with its luscious, spicy, black and red fruit flavours. One up is Fetzer's ripe, tarry 1989 Barrel Select Zinfandel (from Les Amis du Vin, £9.95).

The best examples of this grape come from the Ridge winery, high in the Santa Cruz mountains overlooking San Francisco. Paul Draper, of Ridge, succeeded where others failed because he treated the zinfandel as a great grape. He sought out old plots of low-yielding zinfandel grapes, mainly south of San Francisco, and vinified and aged them separately in small oak barrels. By treating the zinfandel grape with the same respect as Californians would give top cabernet sauvignon or pinot noir, Mr Draper's separate Ridge bottlings achieve such luscious, ripe, mulberry, blackberry and loganberry-like flavours, it is impossible not to be impressed.

The mark of good to great zinfandel is lots of berry and bramble fruit (reminding most tasters of blackberries), together with a distinctive, musky, perfumed, exotic scent, and spicy, full-flavoured palate. High alcohol and a deep, dark purple colour are part of the style: some of the Ridge single bottlings, such as the 1990 Geyserville, reach 14 per cent alcohol and more.

One of the world's great red grapes, the zinfandel brings a welcome change from the slavish adoration of cabernet sauvignon and pinot noir. It is good to see it planted outside California, too, in places such as western Australia at David Hohnen's Cape Mentelle winery, and in South Africa.

Zinfandel's largest single world planting is of 13,000 acres in California's central, or San Joaquin, valley. Sonoma Valley has 4,100 acres and the Napa valley 2,180 acres. Other California wine regions have less than 2,000 acres each, but together it all adds up to 23 per cent of California's red wine grapes.

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of the zinfandel grape is its history. Indigenous to California, nobody quite knows how it got there or where it came from. But as one of the earliest pre-gold-rush grapes, the zinfandel is most likely to have been brought to California by Europeans, and Count Agoston Haraszthy from Hungary, who arrived in California in the early 19th century, could well have been the man responsible. This explains why zinfandel at one stage was thought to be an obscure Hungarian variety. But latter-day ampelographers now believe that California's zinfandel is one and the same as southern Italy's primitivo.

Whether it is, or it isn't, will keep ampelographers in work for ever. Meanwhile, we can all revel in the zinfandel's keenly priced, unfashionable status.

- **1990 Fetzer**, *Safeway and Oddbins £4.99, Les Amis du Vin, 51 Chiltern St, W1, and The Winery, 4 Clifton Road, W9, £9.95*
Spice, elegance and oodles of blackberry fruit.
- **1991 Canterbury California**, *Majestic Wine £5.99*
Fine, musky, blueberry and blackberry fruit.
- **1989 Fetzer Barrel Select**, *Les Amis du Vin and The Winery, £9.95*
Pleasing, ripe, tarry zinfandel flavours.
- **1990 Ridge Geyserville**, *Oddbins £10.99, Les Amis du Vin and The Winery £12.95.*
Scented, minted bramberry fruit; 14 per cent alcohol. The tops.
- **1990 Ridge Lytton Springs**, *Oddbins £9.99, Les Amis du Vin and The Winery £12.95.*
Delicious, deep purple, squashy mulberry, blueberry spiced fruit.

Enjoy a gourmet masterclass with *The Times* and chef Satish Arora



Hands-on exotic Indian cookery: Times readers will see at firsthand the creation of seven sumptuous dishes

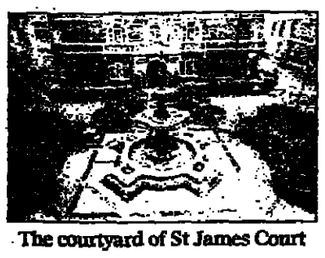
A taste of India at its best

If you've wanted to learn to prepare rich, exotic Indian dishes as much as most people enjoy eating them, here is your chance. Readers are invited to attend a cookery masterclass to see the highly acclaimed chef Satish Arora in action, and to enjoy one of his gourmet meals in the splendid surroundings of the Café Mediterranée at the St James Court hotel, near Buckingham Palace.

On three evenings — Thursday April 22, Friday April 23, and Saturday April 24 — Satish Arora will demonstrate and explain his cooking techniques for a sumptuous three-course meal, comprising seven original Indian dishes in the Edwardian suite at St James Court, before guests enjoy the same menu in the Café Mediterranée.

Satish Arora, who is the director of food production and chef culinaire for the Taj Group, recently flew to Britain to prepare a state banquet for the Queen, and has prepared feasts for the Prince and Princess of Wales, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, Baroness Thatcher and Mikhail Gorbachev. In 1987, he won a gold medal at the Escoffier Chefs' Association Culinary Olympics in Japan. Last year, the glossy society magazine *Members* voted him one of the "Best 20 Chefs in the World".

Now you can see the master chef in action. The itinerary is: meet at St James Court at 6pm for a glass of wine before the masterclass, which starts at 6.30pm.



The courtyard of St James Court

THE MENU

Khumbi Kabab
Mushroom patty with crushed green pepper and black peppercorn sauce

Aloo Bharta ki Tokri
Potato cups filled with spicy potato and baked

****

Shahnam ke Moti
Raw banana koftas stuffed with prunes in a tomato-based spicy sauce

Aachari Panir Harachanna Aloo
Cottage cheese, potato and green chickpeas in pickled spices

Pachmela ki Dal Methi Muthia
Mixture of five lentils

Masala Makki Mutter Pillau
Spicy Basmati rice with peas and corn

****

Santare Ka Piala
An orange cup filled with rice flour pudding enriched with nuts

The demonstration — featuring closed-circuit television cameras to catch every detail — lasts one and a half hours. Dinner will be served at 8.30pm, accompanied with wines from the St James Court cellars.

The cost for this magnificent evening is only £55 per person, including the reception, cookery demonstration, dinner, all wines, service and VAT.

And there is a bonus, exclusive to readers of *The Times*: if you would like to stay the night at St James Court, the extra cost, including breakfast, service and VAT, is only £45 (single supplement £20). As the total cost for two people is only £200, this is superb value, particularly when you consider that the usual room price at St James Court, without dinner and breakfast, is £150 per night per person.

Our cookery masterclasses always prove very popular with Times readers, and early application is advised. To book, please complete the coupon and send it with your remittance to: *The Times* Indian Masterclass, Jo Langran, Promotions Department, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN.

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Spiritual feast in a time of fast

Ruth Gledhill visits the women's gallery in the Regent's Park mosque to experience the Muslim observance of Ramadan



BUSTLE around the golden copper alloy dome and adjacent minaret of the mosque in Regent's Park in London is at its height this month, with the annual Ramadan fast. Ramadan falls in the ninth month of the lunar calendar, in which the prophet Muhammad received the first revelation of the Koran. It demands total abstinence for one month from all food, drink and marital relations during daylight hours. Anyone who is sick, the pregnant or people who are travelling need not fast, but they must make up the time later. It is a time of intense spirituality for all observing Muslims, and this year coincides with Lent.

My host for the weekday prayers and communal meal at the central mosque was Elaine El-Essawy, wife of Hesham, a Harley Street dentist and founder of the Islamic Society for the Promotion of Religious Tolerance. Muslims are required to pray five times a day: at daybreak, noon, afternoon, the close of day and night. During Ramadan the midday prayer, *Zuhr*, and afternoon prayer, *Asr*, are followed by a lecture at the central mosque.

In between prayers, the large prayer hall is filled with men who sit and chat, deliver impromptu speeches or read the Koran.

We arrived at the mosque before the early evening or sunset prayer, *Maghrib*, when dozens of men and women were waiting to break their fast. After *wudu*, the ablutions of faces, hands, arms and feet in the special washroom provided, we entered the galleried area of the mosque, from which we looked down on the men in the prayer hall beneath us.



Facing Mecca: the interior of the mosque is sparsely furnished

We watched a crowd gather round a man speaking loudly of the need for sacrifice and unity among Muslims. "Doctor, teacher, engineer, everywhere Muslim people must be united and support each other," he said in Arabic, translated for me by the Muslim women seated with us in the screened-off ladies' gallery above. Women in scarves, long skirts or traditional Pakistani dress walked around the gallery, offering dates, sweets and pastries, which we held until the Ramadan fast ended at sunset — 5.43pm on this day.

Like most mosques, the one in Regent's Park is plain and sparsely furnished inside. Images and idols are banned. Only the glittering chandelier, a gift from Saudi Arabia, suspended beneath the stunning golden dome, gives any material indication of the spiritual riches of Islam. Mosques are places of worship and not for embellishment. At the Friday congregational service, the largest in Britain, an imam (prayer leader) will preach for up to an hour.

Wooden screens made it difficult, though not impossible, to see what was happening below. "This is not because of the popular belief that women and men are not allowed to mix or that women are lesser creatures," my neighbour explained. "It is basically to do with men's weakness. When we pray, we are supposed to be communicating with God. If a woman is bending down to pray, a man could be distracted."

For this reason, in mosques without galleries or separate rooms, women are asked to stand behind the men, and in some UK mosques, women are not allowed in at all. In Islamic law, men must go to the mosque to pray, whereas women are rewarded equally for prayers said at home.

The mosque sits on a 2.3 acre site, purchased with funds provided by the British government and handed over in 1944, although work did not begin until 1974. The £6 million building costs were raised from a number of Muslim governments. Running costs today come largely from Saudi Arabia with imams educated in Egypt.

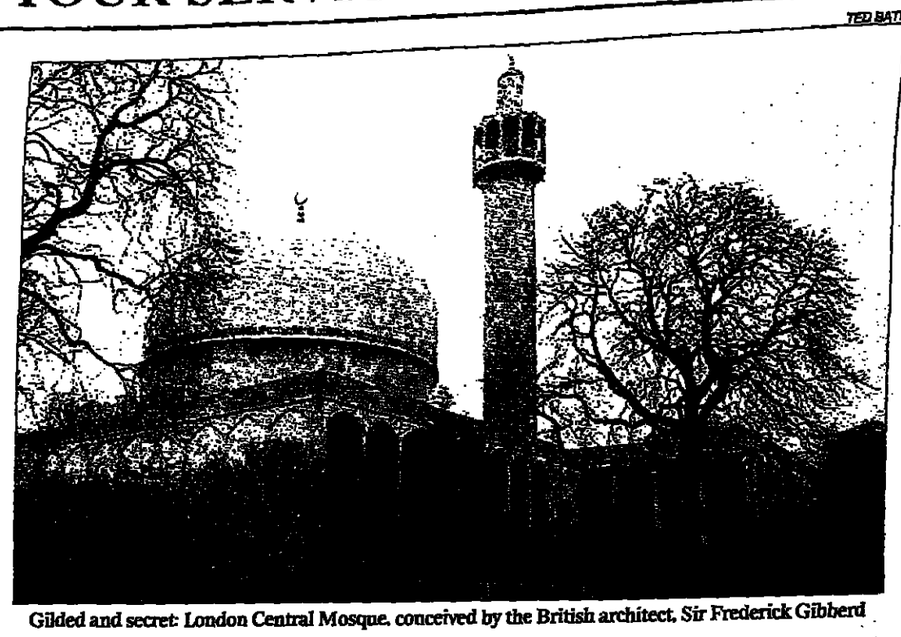
Throughout the year, prayers (*salat*) are said five times a day, this being one of five obligations Muslims must fulfil to live a good life. The others are repeated confessions of faith; giving money (*zakat*) to the needy; the annual fast of Ramadan; and at least one pilgrimage to the Sacred Mosque at Mecca.

Everyone prays facing Mecca, birthplace of Muhammad. The imam stood in a green and gold alcove. Throughout the world, the ritual is identical and always in Arabic. Prayer is made up of a number of units, or *rakda*, depending on the time of day. We began by reciting the first verse of the first *sura*, or chapter, of the Koran, the collection of divine revelations obtained by the prophet Muhammad, which begins: "In the name of the One God, the Compassionate One, the Merciful." We proceeded to do three *rakda*, in which we bowed once, knelt and prostrated ourselves twice and then stood. At the end of the last one, we recited salutations and prayers to Allah.

A mosque prayer guide advises that a woman should "avoid anything entailing seduction, like make-up or scents". We removed our shoes to pray, but our heads remained covered at all times except during *Iftar*, the communal fast-breaking meal that follows evening prayer during Ramadan. We were in a room separated entirely from the men and could remove our headscarves, although few did. Navine, Fatheya and Fayma distributed spinach, rice and spicy minced meat, followed by tea and cake.

After the meal came the late evensong, or *Esha* prayer. Because it was Ramadan this was followed by *Taraweeh*, a special prayer, and the next day by *Fajr*, at dawn. But by then we were long gone, asleep and no longer hungry.

● *Prayers every day at the five prescribed times. Congregational service on Friday begins at midday.*



TED BATH

Gilded and secret: London Central Mosque, conceived by the British architect, Sir Frederick Gibberd

The Islamic Cultural Centre and London Central Mosque, 146 Park Road, Regent's Park, London NW8 (071-724 3363)

DIRECTOR GENERAL: *Dr Ali Abdullah Mughran Al Ghamdi*
SERMON: *None when we attended, although expositions are given in English and sometimes Arabic on Friday afternoons.*
ARCHITECTURE: *Stunning design with traditional dome and minaret. Rooms inside are bare but peaceful.★★★★*
LITURGY: *Supplied for visitors with English translation in a prayer guide, with instructions on how to perform the ritual prostrations.★★★*
MUSIC: None.
AFTER-SERVICE CARE: *Surprisingly pleasant to be in an environment where women are looked after, talked to and supplied with food, water and tea entirely by other women.★★★★*
★stars are awarded to a maximum of five

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AMUSING, intelligent, sexy man wanted for London dinner parties with zillions of single women. Tel 071 629 5534.

ATTRACTIVE creative unusual professional lady missing the frisson of male company. With the years now flown, I would like to find a wise experienced interesting man, preferably tall & non smoking. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 1369

ATTRACTIVE 81 year old fun loving female wishes to meet a very professional extrovert 30-35 year old for friendship. London/Sussex. Please Reply to Box No 1281

ATTRACTIVE graduate, 61, slim, vivacious, seeks unattached intelligent professional gentleman, 66-70, n/s, active, cultured and of good taste. *London/S.East Box No 1360*

ATTRACTIVE professional lady late 50's n/s SOH, music lover, Wishes to meet similar gentleman. Kent */London.* Photo please. Box No 1378

A woman of spirit & strength of character, charming happy good looking & vague. Seeks kind, generous, feeling individual to live & share life. Please Reply to Box No 1357

BACK from skiing SI cheerful presentable 60ish lady love to meet ditto gentleman 55ish or younger. Within theatre full friendship what it takes, SE. Please Reply to Box No 1338

BEAUTIFUL American ladies seek friendship, romance and marriage with British gentlemen! All aged English Connection (Dept R), Suite 2, 24 Cecil Square, Margate, Kent, CT9 1BA. 0843-290735. As featured on Wogan. Where There's Life. Abray etc

BEAUTIFUL slim, warm & witty brunette Marketing Consultant (31) p/a. Loves the arts & countryside - at home in ballgown or wellies. Seeks unattached, sincere, affectionate, successful gentleman to share laughter, *love & life. SOH a must! Surrey / Berks/London.* Box 1374

BEAUTIFUL single Christian lady Oxbridge graduate (28) 5'7" very shapely long dark-haired School teacher. Seeks tall intelligent very successful man to love and marry. Please Reply to Box No 1317

BEAUTIFUL English intelligent mature lady seeks English gentleman to cherish her and be cherished in return. Liverpool based. Reply to Box No 1316

BEWARE The Ides of March? No it's my birthday - there's room & a song in my heart for you. Warm witty wise woman wants 46+ now/v/nice Northwesterner. Reply to BOX NO 1367 PIN NO 6004

CHELSEA GIRL It is a milestone in life when you actually admit that independence, that separateness, that ability to do what you want to when you want to is no longer appealing and that independence really only equates with loneliness. Pray female, 45, looking for that someone special to make life more attractive and fulfilling. *Please Reply to Box No 1380*

COULD YOU handle a vivacious, attractive, active 5'8" degree educated, strong minded, 41 year old brunette? Then look no further, my interests include yacht sailing, atrocious golf, good music preferably rock blues & jazz, good food & wine. If you are unattached, fun loving, interesting, well travelled, sporty male, then drop me a line including age & recent photo. *Please Reply to Box No 1178*

EASTER ALONE? Attractive well-presented independent female 40's, seeks intellectual male, 40+, slim, humorous, romantic, for friendship and fun. London area. Box No 1332

LADIES

EAT your heart out all ball, extrovert, professional, petite & sizeably great. I'm the best thing since sliced bread (wholemeal of course) not past sell-by date (40ish) and environmentally friendly. Ultra-normal with SOH in abeyance. Hyper-attractive, sexy. Public-school ed, endlessly loving, fighting fit, and interested in everything. Fed-up with cuddling my teddy-bear. Colchester or anywhere? Please Reply to Box No 1382

EUREKA! Extremely busy independent International beauty, sincere with elegance, & charm. No spare time or inclination to "weed out" seeking the one in a trillion, cultured, fluent gentleman, 50-65 years young. Intellectual *who has a zest for life &* SOH Serious replies only in strictest confidence, incl. profile photo, height. A silent Pls no etc. Reply to Box No 1364

EXCEPTIONALLY attractive *interesting lady, early 30's,* gorgeous blonde, 5'11", interests include theatre, travel, reading, and country life. Would like to hear from n/s successful, unpretentious, Manchester based fun loving male. Letter and photo plse Box No 1400

FEMININE German widow misses male companion 60+ for *enjoyment of lifes* many pleasures. Box No 1333

GENTLEMAN with country lifestyle 40+ sought by smart, intelligent, affectionate and lovely lady. Please write with phone no. Box No 1401

GOLF partner wanted by prof female 40 Thames Valley send details which may make the match. Reply to Box No 1368

GREGARIOUS, attractive, blue-eyed brunette, warm and sensitive 39, enjoys the arts, travel, continental cuisine & fun. Greg Brown. Seeks romantic and passionate man. London/East Midlands. Box No 1361

HARD-WORKING bubbly lady mid 40's needs goat to spoil her in non-working hours. View long-term. Box No 1372

LADIES

HELP - tall attractive vivacious graduate NNS 40S seeks 40's man for life enrichment. *Please* Reply to Box No 1237

I am tall, striking & adventurous. Perhaps you are tall good-looking around 30-40ish living in the Beaconsfield area, then please be my knight in shining armour! Photo please Box 1395

INCOMPLETE Jigsaw showing normal happy family with Mum (early 40's, divorced, good job). Bright well adjusted children playing and throwing sticks for the dog. Do you have the missing piece(s)? Box No 1290 PIN NO 6026.

INDEPENDENT artistic bright attractive prof. lady 40ish 5'6" enjoys country & the arts would like to meet kind amusing intelligent man 38-50 W.Country. Photo please Box 1409

LADY living Cheshire, but happy to travel. Seeks genl. 50+ with sincere face and twinkly eyes to share a drink a chat or a lifetime. Box 1037 PIN 6033

LIFE'S nearly perfect, attractive female, 36, own home, car, executive job, well dressed, good fun, non smoker, now looking to share romance, now with, honest, reliable man of similar means, to share and enjoy life. Box No 1386

MR RIGHT needed for expedition to Antarctic for marriage/friendship. Tall elegant lady 44, quiet, healthy, positive, n/s, cultured, serious but loves life and loves to laugh. I love photography, films, books and also the country-life. This expedition is based on honesty, respect, good friendship and similar interests. Please Reply to Box No 1266

OPTIMISTIC, intelligent, slim female loves to meet an attractive unattached male (40+) with a feeling for a close relationship. Photo/phone please. Reply to Box No 1262

PRETTY lady 60's own home *and car in East Sussex.* Non-smoker. Cultured with wide interests including New Age philosophy, seeks Gentleman with similar interests for a caring companionship. Reply *with photo to Box No 1358*

LADIES

PROFESSIONAL Scots lady (45), Surrey based, interested in sport, theatre, entertaining and travel, wishes to meet chunky, sporty, interesting professional man (45 - 55), find-bearded and with love to share for secure loving relationship. Please call Sheryl Brown at Candleburners Tel 071 371 5535

RESPONSIVE, attractive, communicative, courageous, sensual male graduate, 5'10"+, 30-60, sought by very feminine woman, for a very good and powerful relationship. London. No beards. Photo essential. Please Reply to Box No 1382

SEXY sophisticated sensual stimulating intelligent lady 38 seeks barrister/ consultant chairman or similar for fun business & theatre dining & kisses. Replies in confidence to Box No 1410

SOPHISTICATED, tall, attractive, sporty prof. female, feminine, *looking for a successful,* attractive, athletic 6ft+ male (45-55) to enjoy life. London based. Photo plse. Box 1381

SO you have it all? Intellect, good life-style, spacious home but miss presence of elegant romantic attentive pretty (29) romantic lookalike Hannibal. If you too must be kind, decisive, n/s tall gentleman, ready for TLC relationship! Reply Box No 1407

TALL dark lovely late 30's divorced S. West lady into outdoor life + sailing hands waiting. Romantic affectionate sincere fun loving cultured profession*al.* Hyndsight! Box 1291

WARM attractive Pisces seeks well-spoken n/s caring man 30+ to share enjoyment of life. Photo app. Reply Box No 1347

WARM *woman For Easter duty* would like to meet a caring sensitive man 34-40, who loves the country, travel, gardening, cycling etc. Would appreciate photo, letter & tel no. *London/SE.* Box No 1375

YOUNG chap 50s-plus well-off tall n/s SOH sought by slim young lady 53 for fun trips out/fun waiting lasting love. Essex/Cambs border country. *BOX No 1334 PIN NO 6037*

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FLOWERS OF THE EAST The professional Thai marriage bureau: Reply to Box No 1296

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AMERICAN man, Eastbourne, writer. Young 59 seeks lady educated, slim, warm, outgoing, sensitive, aged 45ish. Send photo & photo to Box No 1371.

ASK you single intelligent slim sensual and funny? If you are slim, attractive & realised with ability to share & travel etc. Why not drop me a line with a photo? Please Reply to Box No 1321

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BEWARE The Ides of March? No it's my birthday - there's room & a song in my heart for you. Warm witty wise woman wants 46+ now/v/nice Northwesterner. Reply to BOX NO 1367 PIN NO 6004

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GENTLEMEN

RETIRING Business Man sixties much travelled various interests seeks pleasant lady romance fun full slim unattached *ptefd n/s.* Photograph welcome. *Please Reply to Box No 1340*

RETIRED Capital Lawyer, 64, professional, financially independent, successful career, widow has retired and is now very active caring but 55-65, *Exchange photo. Box No 1384*

ROMANTIC caring gentleman 6ft tall 40ish, interests incl country, home, theatre, music, dining, seeks New relationship with lady, kind hair & sensuous nature. Box 1331

SOULMATE - Cultured, caring, professional man, kind, sensitive, loyal and sincere, has sense of humour, n/s, seeks romance, sensitive, intelligent lady of gentle disposition 40-50 to share his life and enjoyment of classical music, theatre, art & fine arts, theatre, countryside, travel, good food/wine and company. Photo appreciated. Please Reply Box 1405

THIS is meant only for Einstein - My Lit. You know who you are and you know when the real love goes it's still in there. Reply to BOX 1346 PIN 6032

UPWARDLY mobile male 38 seeks slim attractive lady 25-30 for fun & more if suits. Should be confident outgoing and have SOH. Photo please. Reply to Box No 1369

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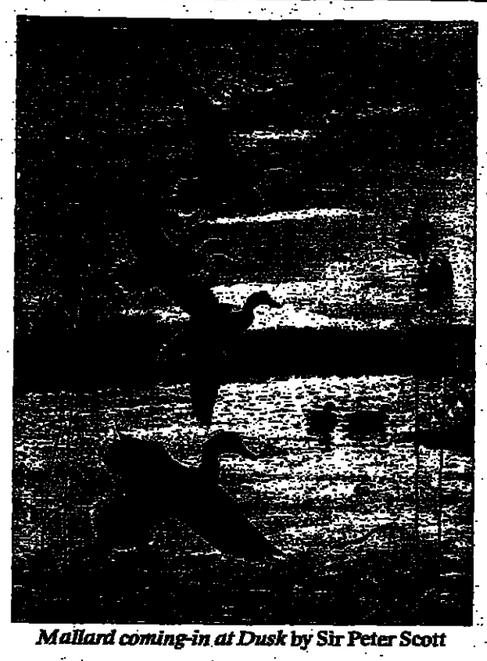
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Avian art flocks to the auction rooms

Ornithological paintings go on sale at Christie's and Sotheby's this month. **Sarah Jane Checkland** tries a little bird-watching



Mallard coming-in at Dusk by Sir Peter Scott

RDS were once ad-red for their beauty d miraculous powers flight. The Egyptian d, Horus, was identi-d with the falcon, life in ancient Rome piter was symbolised an eagle, Minerva owl, and Juno a acock. When the ortal Icarus attempt-to fly, he was re-arded by singeing d death.

Today, perceptions birds are more pro-ic, and the only ople with time for ese creatures are bird atchers and men in een wellies who like hooting.

Now comes a chance or an avian appreciation, as a massive migration of irds swoops on to the rt market. This onth, 140 paintings rom the Archibald horburn Museum, edicated to that cele-brated Edwardian bird rtist, will be offered at Sotheby's, while Christie's offers, among other things, a collection of bird pictures on behalf of Lord Alanbrooke, a keen ornithologist and Chief of the Imperial General Staff in Churchill's government, and a glorious series of pigeons by Charles Tunnicliffe.

These spectacular pictures of game birds by the Edinburgh-born artist, who counted Edward VII and George V among his patrons, include, at the higher end of the price scale, *The Close of a Winter's Day*, in which four pheasants are shown grouped in a clearing before a setting sun (estimate £15,000 to £20,000), and a peacock in full display before a rhododendron bush at £50,000. Less expensive is *Eagle owl* at up to £8,000.

The Alanbrooke pictures show the inhabitants of our moors and hedgerows, such as grouse and robins, as well as the occasional peacock and eagle. Also in the group is an image of Egyptian vultures looking like disillusioned King Lears with gimlet eyes and head feathers like wild wigs (£1,800 to £2,500).

These are among the original paintings from the bird-watcher's bible of the 1940s and onwards, the five volumes of *The Handbook of British Birds*, commissioned from the renowned bird artist George Edward Lodge. Rescued shortly after the book was published, they have been in Lord Allanbrooke's collection ever since.

The Tunnicliffe pigeons result from a grand project by the pigeon fancier Thomas Forshaw which ultimately failed. In 1947 Forshaw commissioned the renowned bird artist to record the strutters and preeners in his collection. His plan was to publish them in a book. Sadly, however, the intended publishers pulled out and so the images at Christie's are all that remain (estimate £600-£1,600).

Unfortunately, earlier depictions of bird life are harder to come by. First in this category is the medieval bestiary, full of often fantastical images of the birds and the beasts. An example sold at Sotheby's in November 1990 for £2.97 million.

Later attempts at more accurate representations, based on skins brought to Europe by Dutch East India Company traders, were handicapped by the fact that, without the skeleton, mistakes were made. The habit of removing the feet of fowl before packing in places such as New Guinea gave rise to the assumption in the early 17th century that the birds were permanently airborne.

The first scientifically based book was produced in 1676 and, by the late 18th century, curates, such as the Rev Christopher Atkinson of Wetherfields, Essex, spent their spare time recording what they saw on the local pond (his watercolours of ducks and owls are estimated at between £1,500 and £2,000 at Christie's).

The 19th century was the age of natural history volumes, when publishers recruited the landed gentry and rich merchants to subscribe to them.

Such products ceased after complaints by members of the middle classes that the volumes were overpriced. Today, the demand for coloured prints has meant the break-up of many such books, and pages from the two most famous artists, Audubon and Gould, can cost from £280 to £6,000 (and even more) for the former and from £200 to £600 for the latter.



Puffed up: pigeon study, one of 19, by Charles Tunnicliffe, which goes on sale at Christie's, King Street, London SW1 on March 16

In 1921, the Importation of Plumage (Prohibition) Act, initiated by the newly-formed Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, meant the end of the taxidermic approach to the subject. Many artists have relied upon observation and memory; nowadays it is also possible to use cameras to record birds in motion. Many of the best modern works are of scenic landscapes showing birds at what they do best: flight. One such example is *Mallard coming-in at Dusk* by Sir Peter Scott (estimate £1,500 to £2,000). So immediate is the scene that you can almost hear the wings flap.

How to get and keep a bird in the hand

● **Light:** Bird paintings and prints are often in pristine condition because they have been kept away from the light. In order to preserve freshness, be sure to do the same, or to keep them behind glass, which cuts out ultraviolet rays. Make sure new mounts and backings are made from acid-free board, to avoid discoloration.

● **Auctions:** Archibald Thorburn from the Thorburn Museum, Sotheby's New Bond Street, London W1 (071-493 8080), March 31.
Watercolours and pictures of birds, Christie's, King Street, London SW1 (071-839 9060), March 16.

● **Dealer:** Tom Schuster, 14 Maddox Street, London W1 (071-491 2208), who specialises in Audubon and Gould prints.

● **Exhibition:** "From Ark to Art: Animals in the decorative arts 1650 to 1900", an exhibition of furniture, glass, animal paintings and needlework on the theme of animals. Includes splendid 17th-century Florentine cabinet decorated with plaques made from *pietra dura* or mosaics from stone, showing exotic birds perched on flowering branches, and a Chippendale giltwood mirror carved with monkeys and swooping birds. Mallett, 141 New Bond Street, London W1Y (071-499 7411).

● **Book:** *The Art of Bird Illustration* by Maureen Lambourne is a beautifully illustrated and amusingly written historical survey. Collins 1991, £19.95, to order from Zwemmers, 26 Litchfield Street, London WC2 (071-379 7886).

SAMPLE THE WORLD'S FINEST HOTEL AND RESTAURANT GROUP WITH OUR SPECIAL DOUBLE OFFER — OR ENTER THE COMPETITION

Your Carte d'or to excellence

Proprietors of British Relais & Châteaux are a pretty disparate bunch, as Allan Holland, chairman of Relais & Châteaux in the UK, is the first to agree.

He points out that the Roux brothers had a classical French craft training, Michael Harris (The Bell at Aston-Clinton) attended the hotel school at Lausanne, Richard Broyd (Hartwell House) and John Tham (Cliveden) were primarily drawn to the business by their passion for fine buildings, Paul Henderson (Gidleigh Park) and Tim Hart (Hambleton Hall) are "food and wine nuts who are mad about the countryside".

"For all of the members of the group, running a Relais is more than just a job," he says. "However they come to the profession, their feeling for their house is intense, personal and proprietorial, rather than commercial. Woe betide the fellow hotel professional who refers to a Relais as a 'property'."

So how did Mr Holland come to run a Relais? "In the early 1960s I, and my partner Jeremy Mort, ran a small retail business in Sutton Coldfield. While many of my contemporaries were finding their relaxation on the golf-course, my compelling passion was cooking. Inspired by occasional visits to London where, on special occasions, The Connaught supplied truly memorable meals, I escaped from the store whenever an opportunity presented itself and devoted myself to the pages of *Mastering the Art of French Cooking*.



Allan Holland: "running a Relais is more than just a job"

"What a dreadful preparation for running a business! But as with the other 'Relais amateurs' we succeeded in making up for a shortage of education with an overdose of enthusiasm. With Jeremy, who thank goodness did have a sound hotel background and a remarkable eye for detail around the house, I set about looking for a restaurant. Mallory Court, in an attractive area of open countryside, was our eventual choice.

"Initially Mallory provided no accommodation, but as the restaurant prospered we developed the remainder of the building into ten very comfortable bedrooms. Throughout this period I fulfilled the role of head chef and Jeremy took charge of the front of the house. We earned a star for Mallory in 1983, around the same time as the equally self-taught Kay Henderson at Gidleigh Park.

"If you wonder where the boss is to be found at 8pm on your next visit to Mallory, I will be at the stove. Like the theatre or the circus, running a Relais is more a way of life than a business."

This is week three of our two distinct Relais & Châteaux offers, the *Carte d'or* and the *Limited Editions* offers. The Carte d'or offer entitles readers to 20 per cent off the room tariff at any of the 20 British Relais & Châteaux hotels detailed below subject to availability, until December 31, 1993. To apply for your *Carte d'or* (shown above right), and for a brochure giving details of the Limited Editions packages available at all 23 listed establishments, simply collect four differently numbered tokens from those printed in *The Times*. Token three appears below right; token four will appear next Saturday, March 20. Send the tokens, together with your name, address and a cheque or postal order for 90p to cover postage, to: *The Times*/Relais & Châteaux offer, PO Box 490, London E1 9DW.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The Carte d'or offer entitles the holder to a 20 per cent discount off accommodation only, at any of the 20 participating Relais & Châteaux hotels. The Carte d'or must be produced on arrival at your pre-booked hotel(s).
2. The Carte d'or offer cannot be booked more than 14 days in advance of your stay and must be booked directly with your chosen hotel(s), quoting *The Times* offer.
3. The Carte d'or 20 per cent discount on accommodation offer does not apply to the Limited Editions package offers.
4. The 20 per cent Carte d'or offer is valid until December 31, 1993.
5. The Carte d'or cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers.
6. Both offers are strictly subject to availability. Any additional services are not included.
7. Neither *The Times* nor Relais & Châteaux can be held responsible for alterations made to information after printing.

Limited editions offer

THE second of our Relais & Châteaux offers, the Limited Editions offer, is an opportunity to sample the delights of all 23 of the British establishments (listed right), with a range of customised packages from £200 at La Tante Claire to the inclusive price of £500 at the others. You are free to sample as many of the packages as you wish. Unlike the Carte d'or offer, the Limited Editions offers can be booked today without reservations and you do not need to use the Carte d'or. To secure your reservation immediately phone 0891 555539* and when asked, quote the two-digit number printed after your chosen establishment(s) to hear a full description of the customised package, and a direct booking line for your hotel (e.g. for Hartwell House dial 0891 555520 and quote zero, eight).

PARTICIPATING RELAIS & CHÂTEAUX ESTABLISHMENTS

● **Fortyseven Park Street & Le Gavroche, Park Street, London W1 — yellow and red shields (quote 01)**
Albert and *Monique Roux's* recreation of the aristocratic elegance of an Edwardian *pied-à-terre*.

● **The Capital Hotel, Basil Street, London SW3 — yellow shield (quote 02)**
David Levin's Knightsbridge hotel retains its old-fashioned charm.

● **La Tante Claire, Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 — red shield (quote 03)**
Pierre Koffmann's restaurant, now has three Michelin stars.

● **Gravetye Manor, near East Grinstead, West Sussex — yellow shield (quote 04)**
Elizabethan splendour with one of England's finest cellars.

● **L'Ortolan, Shinfield, Near Reading — red shield (quote 05)**
The chef, John Burton-Race, represented Britain in last year's gastronomic European Games in Madrid.

● **The Waterside Inn, Bray-on-Thames, Berkshire — red and blue shields (quote 05 — package with L'Ortolan)**
Michel Roux's restaurant has three Michelin stars and the greatness of classic French cooking.

● **Cliveden, Taplow, Berkshire — gold shield (quote 06)**
Built in 1666 for the Duke of Buckingham and lived in by George III's father, Frederick, Prince of Wales.

● **Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons, Great Milton, Oxford — gold and red shields (quote 07)**
The only establishment in Britain to qualify for both the Relais & Châteaux gold and red shields.

● **Hartwell House, near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire — yellow shield (quote 08)**
This fine country house provided sanctuary for Louis XVIII 180 years ago.

● **The Bell Inn, Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire — blue shield (quote 09)**
This original coaching inn has had its kitchens acknowledged in the *Good Food Guide* consistently for the past 40 years.

● **Chewton Glen Hotel, New Milton, Hampshire — gold shield (quote 10)**
One of the earliest of the English country house hotels, set in 70 acres of gardens and woodlands.

● **Longueville Manor, St Saviour, Jersey — yellow shield (quote 11)**
This 13th-century manor has been lived in by the Seigneurs of Jersey for over 600 years.

● **Summer Lodge, Evershot, Dorset — green shield (quote 12)**
This peaceful Georgian house was once the dower house of the Earls of Ilchester.

● **Gidleigh Park, Chagford, Devon — yellow shield (quote 13)**
Set within Dartmoor National Park, this luxurious hotel boasts a Michelin-starred dining room.

● **Ston Easton Park, Ston Easton, Bath, Somerset — yellow shield (quote 14)**
The whole establishment exudes excellence. The 17th-century gardener's cottage makes a separate country retreat.

● **Mallory Court Hotel, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire — yellow shield (quote 15)**
The Lutyens-style Mallory Court evokes comfort and serenity.

● **Hambleton Hall, Oakham, Rutland — yellow shield (quote 16)**
A Victorian manor house in a dramatic setting on a peninsula in Rutland Water.

● **Sharrow Bay Hotel, Near Penrith, Cumbria — yellow shield (quote 17)**
Legendary cuisine and hospitality on the shore of Lake Ullswater.

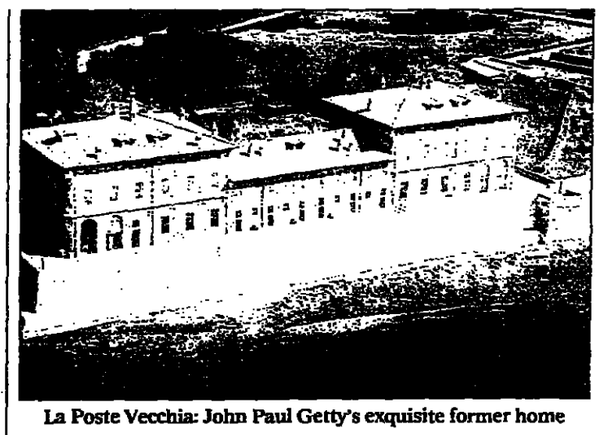
● **Farlam Hall, Brampton, Cumbria — blue shield (quote 18)**
This fine 17th-century house is redolent of the Border Country.

● **Kinnaird, by Dunkeld, Perthshire — blue shield (quote 19)**
An 18th-century house set in 9,000 acres on the River Tay.

● **The Airds Hotel, Appin, Argyll — blue shield (quote 20)**
The 300-year-old hotel is one of the great eating places of Scotland.

● **Inverlochy Castle, Fort William, Scotland — gold shield (quote 21)**
Standing in the foothills of Ben Nevis, Inverlochy is a prime example of Victorian baronial style.

● **Arisaig House, by Arisaig, Inverness-shire — blue shield (quote 22)**
On the road to the isles taken by Bonnie Prince Charlie, Arisaig House is set in mature terraced gardens among redwoods and rhododendrons.



La Poste Vecchia: John Paul Getty's exquisite former home

Win a luxury stay in Rome

La Posta Vecchia, which is on the Mediterranean coast 45 miles from Rome, is a 17th-century villa that has been transformed into a five-star luxury hotel. It was the Italian residence of John Paul Getty in the 1960s, and is as beautiful now as when he lived there.

Times readers can win a three-night luxury stay for two with complimentary breakfast included. The winner and a partner will be flown on a British scheduled flight from Gatwick directly to Rome, courtesy of Air Miles.

The hotel is called the "Old Post House" because it was a posting station and inn in the 18th and 19th centuries. When Getty restored it, he found two Roman villas beneath the foundations, and the rich mosaics he rescued can still be seen in the private museum at the hotel. In the hotel itself, Getty's furniture, tapestries, sculpture and paintings remain exactly as he arranged them, and create an ambiance utterly unlike that of any other hotel in the world.

La Posta Vecchia is the only Gold member of the Relais & Châteaux group in Italy, and offers civilised living at its best. Its restaurant serves the finest Italian cuisine, balanced between the simple and the luxurious. It has a private beach and an indoor swimming pool. It is surrounded by a World Wildlife Foundation park, and offers riding, tennis and golf all close at hand. A little further afield, the land of the ancient Etruscans waits to be explored.

To enter: Call 0891 555542 (*calls cost 36p a minute cheap rate and 48p a minute at all other times) before midnight on Friday March 19, and answer the following three questions:

1. Which famous European train has been awarded honorary membership of Relais & Châteaux?

2. Which historical French flower serves as the symbol of Relais & Châteaux?

3. Which country has the largest Relais & Châteaux membership?

The first correct answer drawn on Saturday, March 20, will win the prize. The winner will be notified by post.







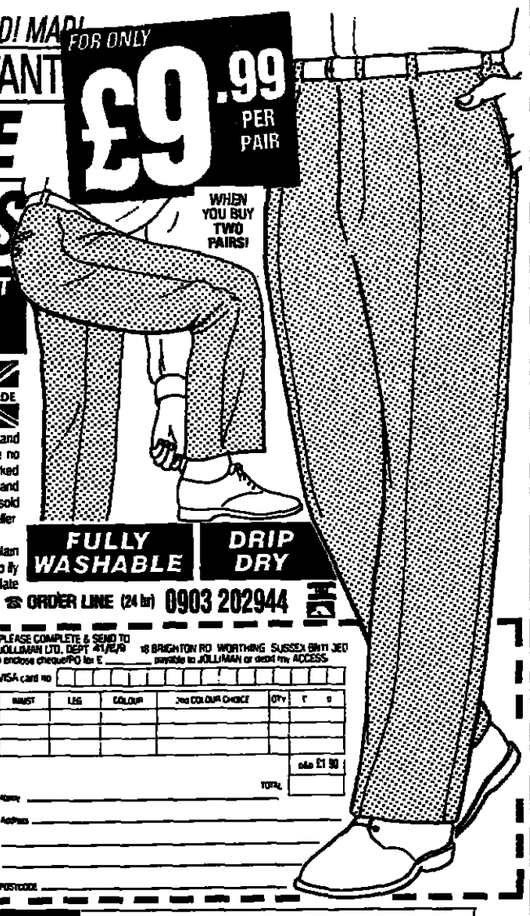
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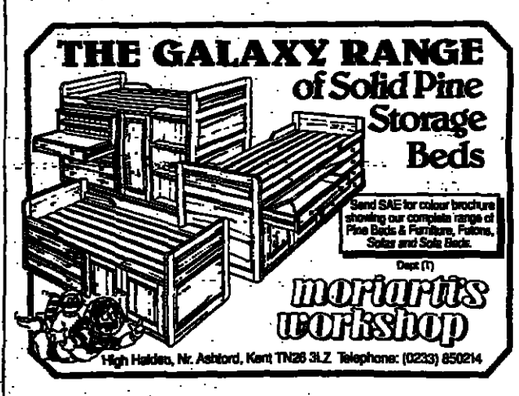
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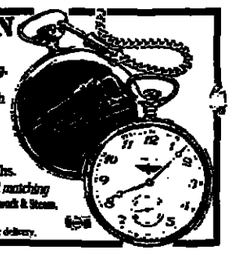
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Designs on gardens great and small

Francesca Greenoak looks at landscapes and their creators

TONY WHITE



Steps to heaven: Rosemary Alexander loves her garden at Stoneacre in Kent for the way its formal structure supports the planting

Landscape design for most of us is not an abstract art, but the view from our windows. It is also the first view a visitor has of our home. Ideally, we want this first impression to be welcoming and to convey our personal style.

However, it can take considerable imagination and ingenuity to reconcile the design ideas of the beautiful gardens held up as exemplars with the muddy topography of our own gardens. So garden owners are turning to professionals for advice on improvements.

My own taste is for a high proportion of good plants combined with minimal, high-quality structure, so I was delighted to find that the International Spring Garden Fair will feature garden design exhibitors who are strongly plant-orientated. This is not to say that formal and structural elements are ignored. Rosemary Alexander of the English Gardening School, based at the Chelsea Physic Garden, favours a formal framework into which luxuriant informal combinations of plants are shown to their best.

She was principally attracted to Stoneacre in Kent, where she now lives, because beneath the weeds, neglect and overgrown trees and shrubs lay a network of well-made, interestingly patterned paths and good walls in old Kentish ragstone. Having cut back the yews, removed the nettles and restrained some of the larger shrubs, Mrs Alexander filled bare spots in beds and borders by dividing up irises and hardy geraniums and by introducing quantities of her favourite tulips and other bulbs, such as alliums.

Constantly looking for new plants and new ways to grow them, she was delighted with the blue-green foliage of *Lonicera splendida* as a foil behind the bright blue of *Ceanothus* "Concha". At present she is experimenting with a Gauguin palette of flower colour — orange, yellow, scarlet and pale blue.

Amateurs on the English Gardening School courses learn techniques that open up all sorts of possibilities for gardens, especially smaller ones. The school offers study days and week-long courses on, for example, cottage-garden plants, or mixed borders, and one or two-day-a-week courses in garden design and plantsmanship, as well as correspondence courses.

Graham Pavey, a garden designer based in Bedfordshire, also exhibiting at the fair, is a former pupil of the English Gardening School. He has made small town gardens his speciality, with the emphasis on linking house and garden, both in style and materials. The use for which the garden is intended is particularly important to him — there is no point in planning demanding borders for a busy family with children, dogs and little time to garden.

Mr Pavey looks for plants that can get on pretty well without a great deal of attention. He chooses easy-going shrub roses, and cultivars which do not require deadheading, such as the floribunda Amber Queen, "lovely with cotton lavender and catmint" (*Nepeta mussinii*). Evergreens such as *Viburnum tinus*, *Choisya ternata* or the neat, mounded *Hebe rakaiensis* are among his favourites. He plants winter-flowering iris and hellebores close to windows so that they can be enjoyed in the view from the house.

Capel Manor, which has 30 acres attached to its garden school, has built a number of model gardens about the size of a small suburban or town garden. Many of these show the use of available artefacts, such as the arches, pergolas and decorative plant supports of Agriframes (another Garden Fair exhibitor).

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Hungry: *Paeonia lactiflora*

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Prune hybrid clematis, cutting the stems of early flowering kinds just above a healthy pair of buds.*
- *Mow the grass on a clear day, with the mower blades high.*
- *Take fuchsia cuttings (these should flower in late summer).*
- *Keep a close watch for big buds on blackcurrants; remove the affected buds and if possible prune the shoots if you see any.*
- *Sow cabbage, calabrese and lettuce in the greenhouse for planting out later.*

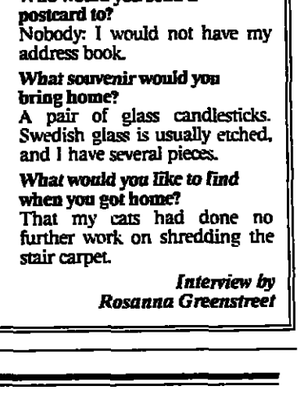
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MY PERFECT WEEKEND

RUTH RENDELL

Author



Where would you go?
Uppsala in Sweden in summer. My mother was born in Stockholm and I have friends and relatives in Sweden. Uppsala is a beautiful old city. The Swedes don't spoil their old towns and cities the way we do: in Uppsala there are lots of new buildings, but no great tower blocks to obscure the scenery.

How would you get there?
By air.

Where would you stay?
With my friends who live in Uppsala, and from whose windows there is a view of the great Gothic cathedral.

Who would be your perfect companion?
My husband, Don.

What essential piece of clothing or kit would you take?
A beautiful Jean Muir dress to wear in the evening.

What medicines would accompany you?
I would buy mosquito repellent when I got there. The mosquitoes can be bad in summer.

What would you have to eat?
Potatis och sill, which is a summer dish made with herring marinated in various ways, dill and the best new potatoes in the world.

What would you have to drink?
Akvavit or maybe Absolut, the Swedish vodka, but not much as I no longer have a strong head.

Which books would you take to read?
A new book by Paul Auster.

What music would you listen to?
Something of Johan Helmich Roman, who has been called the Swedish Handel.

What would you watch on television?
Nothing. The best television is at home.

What luxury would you take?
Perfume. Laura Biagiotti's "Roma", which I would buy at Heathrow.

What piece of art would you like to have there?
Breakfast under the Birch Tree by Carl Larsson. Larsson painted Swedish domestic life at the beginning of this century, and there are a lot of his paintings in the National Museum in Stockholm.

Who would be your least welcome guest?
A matador. There are not likely to be any in Sweden, but as I hate the whole idea of bullfighting, the worst person I can imagine having to put up with is a matador.

What three things would you leave behind?
My address book, my camera and whatever I happen to be worrying about.

What three things would you most like to do?
1. Walk round Uppsala. 2. Go to Stockholm by train and revisit Gamla Stan, the old town, one of the loveliest places on earth. 3. Have dinner at the Operakällaren, a grand restaurant underneath the opera house in Stockholm. When my aunt was a young girl she used to go to the Operakällaren every Sunday night. Everybody dressed for dinner, and the ladies wore long white gloves. When I went there for the first time 20 years ago, everybody was in jeans.

Who would you send a postcard to?
Nobody: I would not have my address book.

What souvenir would you bring home?
A pair of glass candlesticks. Swedish glass is usually etched, and I have several pieces.

What would you like to find when you got home?
That my cats had done no further work on shredding the stair carpet.

Interview by Rosanna Greenstreet

GARDENING

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Chilly thrills of Davy Jones's locker

Plunging below the waves in search of wrecks and risk, Sebastian Goetz experiences the varied excitements of diving off the British coast

BENNY SUTTON



Water baby: the North Sea yields yellow sponges, dead men's fingers and sea urchins in the kelp forest off St Abbes

What is it that attracts more than 70,000 people (a quarter of them women) to dive in British waters? The reasons are as diverse as the available experiences.

The North Atlantic, for example, has some of the strongest currents in the world and the entire British west coast is a paradise for drift-diving speed freaks.

Divers roll off their boats into tidal streams running at two or three knots, which shoot them rapidly down gullies and over reefs for a mile or more. Stopping is nigh impossible — like trying to stand in a hurricane. With one hand firmly gripping your buddy (divespeak for "partner"), it is just possible to steady yourself and steer with your free hand, dodging the rocks that emerge ghost-like from the fog.

This is underwater motorway madness, a crazy freedom. In these fast currents, plankton feeders emerge for an easy meal and divers with quick reflexes can sometimes grab an unwary scallop.

Depth merchants enjoy a different kind of trip. Ascending and descending is like night flying: unable to see either surface or bottom, you depend on your depth gauge to measure progress. If there is a line to follow to the bottom, it will gradually disappear into eerie nothingness. This is the limbo of British diving; weightless, apparently motionless, you see nothing but your fellow diver.

When the bottom finally rises from the gloom to meet you, the surrounding world is completely blue-green, because the deeper you go the more the colours from the red end of the colour spectrum are progressively absorbed by the water. Pressure squeezes your suit, your mask, your buoyancy regulator and your lungs, all of which have to be repeatedly inflated. You become a Michelin man, dark and cold in a totally alien environment.

Many dive deep to visit interesting sites, while others do it for the same reason as bungee jumpers throw themselves off bridges: the kick.

Then there are the wreck divers. Some, armed with navigation charts and comprehensive underwater toolkits strapped to their waists, become so weighed down with mementoes it is a wonder they manage to surface at all. Most, however, are happy simply to swim along hulls that sometimes stand 15 metres or more proud of the sea floor, forming artificial reefs that attract a profusion of marine life. Most wrecks are just huge chunks of broken steel, and many of the more intact or important ones are protected. The image of hordes of divers destroying the nation's heritage is a false one.

Wrecks offer plenty of enticing enclosed spaces, but only the foolhardy or the very experienced venture deep inside them. Sounds of breathing are amplified by chambers of rusting steel, and bubbles run horizontally along the plates above, seeking a way to the surface. Lobsters and conger eels peer out from their crannies, grotesquely enlarged by their proximity and the magnifying effects of water.

For me, the ultimate thrill is night diving. All kinds of creatures, hidden during the day, emerge at night like ravers to feed, mate and exercise. Because it is only possible to see what the torch beam picks out, colours are more defined and your attention becomes more focused. Switch off your torch and you are surrounded by the dull glow of phosphorescence, which gradually fades to total inky blackness.

Whatever type of diving you choose, it is always a thrill to encounter the creatures who inhabit the waters. Even novices can experience the odd sensation of finding themselves nose to beak with a guillemot fishing ten metres below the surface, or see seals dancing below the waves and, if they're lucky, porpoises, basking sharks, even killer and pilot wales swimming along the surface.

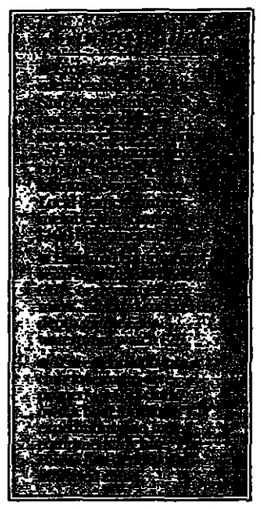
The basics of diving are simple. You do not have to be a particularly strong swimmer: diving kit is very buoyant. General fitness is more important. Breathing is done entirely though the mouth, a knack that can take a little while to master. Kitted up for the first time, the novice diver may feel like a beached whale, but once in the water a modicum of grace returns. A fully equipped diver may carry up to 80lb, most of which is the lead weight belt and the air tank.

Aquanauts in this country have to be well insulated from the cold. The hardy ones dive with a semi-drysuit, basically a thick wetsuit with tighter seals. Water trapped inside the suit is warmed by the body and insulated from the outside by a layer of neoprene. However, to dive in comfort all year round, a drysuit is essential: changing out of a wet swimsuit in winter is not very comfortable. In a drysuit, you hope to be as insulated from your surroundings as a spaceman, though small leaks from the various valves are not uncommon.

Fashion has spread to divers. The black, rubber-clad frogman is an extinct species; nowadays suits come in designer colours.

Fins (flippers) used in the open sea are far bigger than those seen in pools. Waddling in them is almost impossible, and you have to edge yourself gingerly backwards into the water, a particularly difficult task if waves are breaking all around you. Masks are nowadays made of silicone and are also available in a multiplicity of colours. A regulator, a contraption that looks something like an outsize dummy, is used for breathing.

A buoyancy device, similar in appearance either to a life jacket or an inflatable waistcoat, is also worn, and can be deflated or inflated automatically to control buoyancy. There are many smaller items that can, and sometimes must,

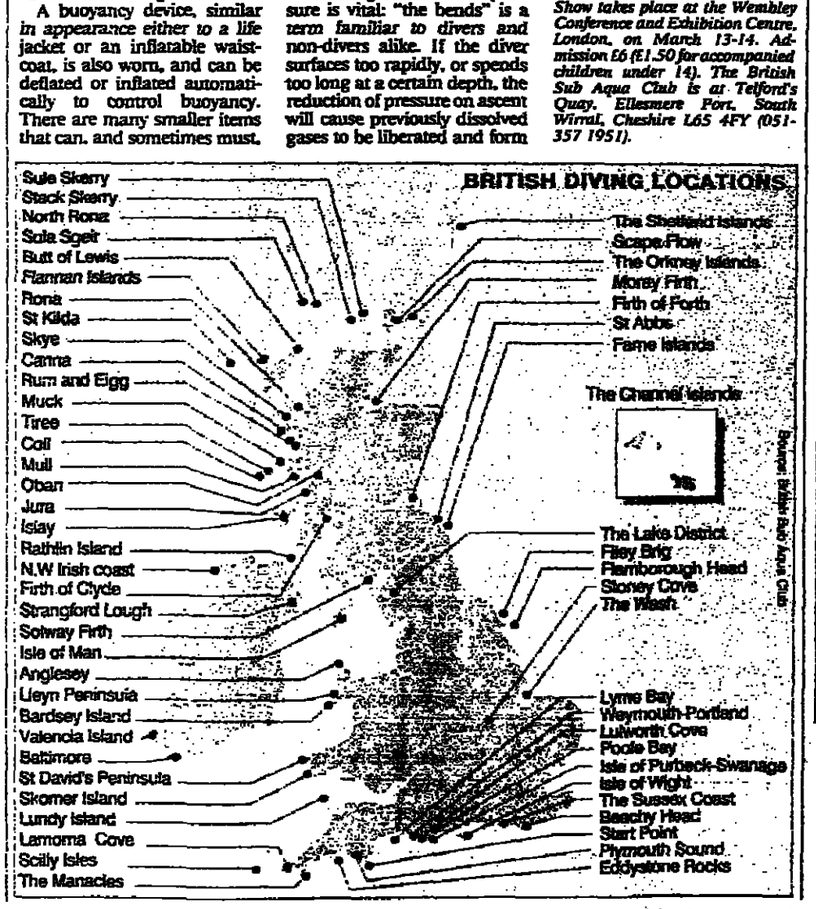


be used. For those with a macho streak, a 15in diving knife adds the final flourish.

Learning the effects of pressure is vital: "the bends" is a term familiar to divers and non-divers alike. If the diver surfaces too rapidly, or spends too long at a certain depth, the reduction of pressure on ascent will cause previously dissolved gases to be liberated and form bubbles in blood and body tissues. As in an aeroplane, pressure in the ears has to be balanced by nose-squeezing; buoyancy regulators and drysuits have to be inflated to stabilise the rate of descent; and a watchful eye must be kept on air consumption — Boyle's law tells us that a full tank of air will last only half as long at ten metres as it does on the surface.

For beginners, it does not take long to leave the training pool behind and enjoy progressively more adventurous diving. The instant brilliance of the tropics is not readily available, but the challenges of the British coast become ever greater. Off northwest Scotland it is possible to experience textbook visibility, wildlife and wrecks. The true fanatic, however, will be happy to dive in the Solent in November, in grey weather and even greyer seas, just for the sake of it.

● *The London International Dive Show takes place at the Wembley Conference and Exhibition Centre, London, on March 13-14. Admission £6 (£1.50 for accompanied children under 14). The British Sub Aqua Club is at Telford's Quay, Ellesmere Port, South Wirral, Cheshire L65 4FY (051-357 1951).*



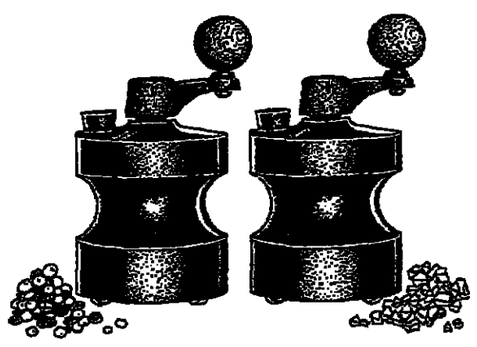
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Caught



Patrick Grayson wears his own herringbone coat from Austin Reed, £85; his own blue pinstripe suit to order from Buckleigh, 83 Lower Sloane Street; Patrick's own from E.J. Burnes in Portobello Road; helmet Trek USA from Psycho, 553 Battersea Park Road, London SW11; pinstripe coatdress, £400, and white cotton shirt, £125, Ralph Lauren. Grey "baker boy" hat, £75 from Herbert Johnson, 3 New Bond Street; Brick Lane Market; bike helmet from Mend a Bike, 4-6 Bl

هكذا من الأصل





ABOVE

Janie Vaughan wears her own coat bought years ago in Paris; polo neck jumper, £395, Ralph Lauren, 144 New Bond Street, London W1; her own jeans from Et Vous, 126 King's Road, London SW3; red docksider shoes, £69, Russell and Bromley, 24-25 New Bond Street, W1 (and branches nationwide). Clemmie Vaughan wears her own hat; jacket, £23, and blue sweatshirt, £8, Patrizia Wigan, 19 Walton Street, London SW3; her own jeans from Benetton nationwide; blue lace-up boots, Buckle My Shoe, 15 St Christopher's Place, London W1; her own tricycle from Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1.

LEFT

David Watt (left) wears grey trackpants, £70, and grey tracksuit top, £115, Ralph Lauren (as before); socks from Boden (as before); Goretex cycling jacket, £179.95, Psycho (as before); water bottle and gloves from a selection at Mend a Bike, 4-6 Effie Road, London SW6; Docksider shoes, £75.99, Russell and Bromley (as before). Chloe Courthauld wears black Lycra cycling trousers, £25, Mend a Bike (as before); her own Browns university sweatshirt; biking trainers from Psycho (as before); helmet, £46.95, Psycho (as before); bike £599.95, Mend a Bike (as before). Max Wakefield wears blue sweatpants, £70, and cream sweatshirt, £115, Ralph Lauren (as before); blue moleskin coat, £129, Hackett, 138 Sloane Street, London SW1; helmet, £42.95, Psycho, 553 Battersea Park Road, London SW11; headband, £9.95, and black sports gloves, £29.95, Psycho (as before); blue shoes, Russell and Bromley (as before); water bottle, £3.50, Mend a Bike (as before); socks from a selection at Boden (071-964 2662 for a free catalogue).

Photographs by John Hudson, styling by Victoria Pyman, hair and make-up by Sheila Carton, fashion assistant Kate Wiggin. Photographed at Alexandra Palace, London N22

On fashion's spokes

James Hepburn ponders what cyclists wear in this Lycra age



One morning ten years ago I was eating my breakfast when a man wearing tights walked into the kitchen. At the time I thought something was up, but I suspected it was more sinister than a revolution in cycle-wear.

His name was Mark, and he had the top back room in the house we rented in south London. He was good company but had some peculiar habits. He made up astrological charts and believed that, like Adolf Hitler and Aleister Crowley, his full name signified 666, the sign of the Beast of the Apocalypse.

His appearance in tights was alarming. Mark was not a Shakespearean actor or a ballet dancer. With my mouth full of toast, I was afraid that he had decided to fulfil his biblical destiny and sacrifice me with the butter-knife.

Mark had taken my place as a bicycle courier for a company in Soho. I had seen the job as a passport to sun-tanned legs. It had turned out to be an antechamber to hell.

Perhaps because the job is so awful, bicycle couriers developed the "bicycle courier style", in the same way that all gruesome occupations, from deep-seam mining to membership of Parliament, build a romance to sustain the horror of reality. The style was skin-tight Lycra, which was why Mark appeared at breakfast with legs like black celery.

Overnight, in the early 1980s, cycling had become chic. A new creature appeared on the street, half surf-bum, half Neapolitan ice-cream. With the leggings, the bandannas and the glacier-goggles came the designer-machine. Mountain-bikes, a little bewildered, blinking the mud and the snow out of their eyes, came to Oxford Street. In the designer bike shop the assistant looked blank when asked for a bolt and advised on colour schemes for your helmet.

Until the arrival of the gear-lever fashion victim, cycling in Britain had bobbed along somewhere around the train-spotter fringe of life. Whatever cycling was, cool was what it was not. Cyclists were men and women in misted spectacles sighted in packs on the hard-shoulder in the drizzle at dawn. They were boys with sticking-plaster over one lens of their pink plastic-rimmed glasses.

In France they had *élan*, but it was the masochistic *élan* of the Tour de France. The leader's shirt is yellow, but the "King of the Mountains" shirt is closer to the spirit of the race, white spotted with red, blood on snow. It is very cool to be a professional cyclist in France, paper-thin and dehydrated.

I resented the new glamour of the bike. I was born too fat to wear mid-thigh-hugging spandex shorts. In summer I liked trousers and a shirt. In winter I liked an overcoat. In the rain I liked to wear a collection of army-surplus waterproofs that snagged in my chain and gave the air inside the foetid damp of a Paraguayan swamp. I hated to see the dirty and chaotic machine I loved being carried as a lifestyle accessory on Porsche roof-racks.

Most of the cyclists photographed at Alexandra Palace, north London, agreed with me. Patrick Grayson was the least Lycra. He cycles every day to his business in the West End. He prefers a suit but is prepared to compromise on jeans. Like his father, the colonel, before him, he cycles to his club in St James's. Unlike his father, who carried on a bitter guerrilla warfare with the club porters, he does not chain his machine to the front railings.

His daughter Louise cycles in whatever she happens to be wearing. She prefers floating skirts but, after experimenting in Alexandra Palace, is open to the idea of pinstripe suits.

Clemmie Vaughan is three and keen on cycling, although this enthusiasm may dim when she learns how to use the pedals. She has two bicycles, a yellow two-wheeler, which she can ride if wedged between the sofa and the wall, and her red road-machine, which travels fastest when pushed like a shopping trolley.

Clemmie has no particular fashion preference when at the handlebars. She did, however, have strong ideas on what she would like to wear for her photographs. She wanted "to look like the girl in the magazine" and apparently she did not, although she looked very nice in her hat.

The older cyclists were generally anti-Lycra, although Chloe Courthauld likes it for looking trendy in the summer. Louise felt that skin-tight black legs were tasteless. The men thought they were unnecessarily fetishist and might cause a rash. For all this, I am not convinced we had a representative sample. When asked what he wore in the rain, David Watt looked blank and said he wore a raincoat and took the car, of course.

Cycling home from the photographic session, I discussed style and the rain problem with a courier at the lights opposite the Houses of Parliament. He said he stuck with Lycra because he had no back mudguard. The advantage of man-made fibres is that the seat does not weigh down under the pressure of a solid ten-hour jet of gutter water. He thought that my attempt to get back to the true spirit of cycling by wearing a flat tweed cap was ridiculous.

He had heard nothing of Mark, though he thought that if he really was the Beast of the Apocalypse, he could not come too soon.



Regent Street, London W1; his Street, London SW3; Street, London SW1. Bike, don, W11: Louise Grayson wears navy New Bond Street, London W1. don, SW1; her own bike from ad, London SW6.

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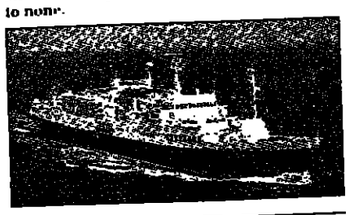




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DAY 10 Nevelsk This fast growing city has taken perestroyka to the very limits.

DAYS 11 & 12 At sea

DAY 13 Vladivostok Closed until recently to western visitors, Vladivostok is the home of the vast Soviet Pacific fleet. It is an attractive city built on hills. We hope to obtain permission to visit Far East Maritime Reserve in Peter the Great Bay.

DAY 14 At sea

DAY 15 Kanazawa (Japan) An enchanting place rich in Japanese heritage with centuries old architecture. Visit Kenrokuen Gardens, one of Japan's three revered perfect gardens.

DAY 16 Matsue (Japan) Picture perfect Matsue stands between a graceful lake and quiet lagoon. Here we find one of the few original castles in Japan. Built in 1611 it is constructed entirely of pinewood.

DAY 17 At sea

DAY 18 Pusan (South Korea) Inhabited for more than 5,000 years, Pusan is attractively located with sweeping sandy bays, backdropped by the Cauldron Mountain.

DAY 19 Mokpo (South Korea) Famous for the annual miracle of the 'Parting of the Waters' on Chindo Island.

DAY 20 Inchon (South Korea) General MacArthur landed here and successfully recaptured the area from North Korea. See Chayu Park and the outer islands in the warm waters of the Yellow Sea.

DAY 21 At sea

DAY 22 Dalian Afternoon visit to this Chinese resort. See the beautiful beaches and parks.

DAY 23 Tianjin Arrive in the late morning. Disembark and drive to Beijing for a four night stay.

DAYS 24, 25 & 26 Beijing Visits to the Forbidden City, Great Wall and other major sights will be arranged.

DAY 27 Fly Beijing to London via Helsinki with Finnair. Arrive in the early evening.

PRICES PER PERSON

Prices range from £3150 for an outside two berth cabin with shower and toilet to £4950 for a two room suite. Single cabins from £3650.

Price includes: Economy air travel, 4 nights first class hotel in Beijing on full board, 2 nights Petropavlovsk on full board, 10 nights on MS Caledonian Star on full board, shore excursions, transfers, visas, Guest Speakers, Expedition Leader, airport taxes, port taxes.

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Ten top tips to sell your house

With help from the National Association of Estate Agents, **Rachel Kelly** offers advice on finding a buyer



Reports of the death of the housing market have been much exaggerated. Sales still happen: about 1.3 million of them last year, according to the Central Statistical Office. The main reasons for moving are marriage, having children, divorce, making money, losing money, or changing jobs. People move on average seven times in their lifetime.

The trick is to make sure they move to your house. *The Times*, together with the National Association of Estate Agents, has devised ten tips on how to catch a buyer. They are tailored to the conditions of March 1993. Anyone who wants to sell should ignore any home-spun wisdom they have learnt from selling in a bull market, or even in previous slumps. This is a bear market the like of which we have not experienced before.

1 Choose the right estate agency. Ask the company how it plans to sell the house. How many other houses of this type has it sold? Does it plan to advertise? If so, who pays? (The agency should.) Assess its commitment: do not judge the company merely on the price it quotes.

2 Price the house correctly. "Overprice your home in the past, and the market would have caught up," says Peter Cliff from the association. "Overprice it now, and you will be stuck with the house."

Houses have their best chance of selling within the first month of coming on the market. After this, buyers become suspicious: why hasn't it sold? Is it too expensive? Is there something wrong with it? The scarcity of certain types of property means that buyers are sensitive to new arrivals and excited by them — but their excitement will wane.

There is little point in incurring the costs for advertising, brochures and professional photographs if the property is overpriced and remains unsold. If the guide price is correct, then these costs are justified.

Prices are still unsteady: the Halifax says they fell by 0.3 per cent in February, while the Nationwide says they fell 1.4 per cent, although it reported a 1.2 per cent rise in January. Avoid risk. If you fail to sell in the first month, prices could be down the next.

Use your agents to price the house, but ask them to be realistic. Agents complain that sellers force unrealistic prices, but some agents are so desperate for business they overvalue. If in doubt, ask for a second opinion from sellers' consultants, such as Tony Halstead in Highgate. Keep an eye on local prices. Talk to neighbours about other sales.

You could even gamble on a low price to encourage buyers to compete against each other.

3 Vendors as well as agents sell houses. You should be unemotional and businesslike. Time is of the essence. Make the most of the time you have with viewers. Prepare a list of features, especially those that are not obvious, such as cavity wall insulation or rewiring. Keep receipts for such work. It reassures the viewers and shows that you have been methodical in your care.

You can organise an open day, when viewers are booked to come at intervals through the day. You can then prepare your home to look especially nice that day, and reduce the stress of keeping it to show-home standards all the time.

However, many buyers are happier to work through agents. They may wish to talk through mortgages and other financial matters. You are paying an agent to sell: do not do his work for him. He may have contacts, for example with relocation companies. His office is open five if not seven days a week to take calls. He should advise on the best price among the offers you receive. He can check there is a sound base to the offer.

4 Take advantage of the arrival of spring, the traditional boom time for selling. Emphasise patios, conservatories and barbecue areas by keeping them clear and clean. Stress the sunshine and know in which direction your house faces.

5 Stress kerb appeal. Houses are sold in the first five minutes. View your property from the road. Sellers despair of buyers who drive up and then do not even bother to come in to savour the fresh-coffee-brewing aroma. You must entice buyers out of the car. Tidy the garden (front first, then back), repair broken gates or walls, clear away clutter, repaint the front door, freshen up window frames. A pair of ornamental trees can spruce up an entrance.

6 Do not include carpets, curtains, light fittings and other features. In a difficult market they can be used later on for negotiation.

7 Show your principal and best rooms first. Hold conversations in the larger and better rooms. Enhance small rooms by keeping the doors open. Access to all rooms should be smooth: unlock burglar and child-proof grilles so the agent can fling the garden doors open.

Lighting is important, so make sure that the windows are clean, and draw back the curtains.

8 Agree with your partner the reason for the sale. You will be asked. Do not allow emotional disputes between you to get in the way.

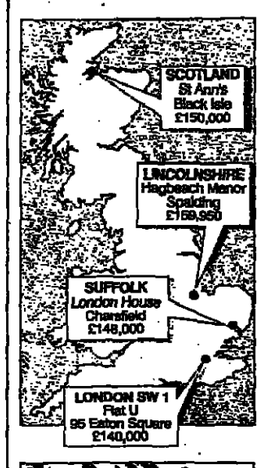
9 The odd stick of good furniture conveys a better atmosphere than a mass of junk. It can deflect the eye from defective architecture and layout. If in doubt, less is more, since it creates an illusion of space and is appropriate to the pared-down 1990s look, a reaction to the flounces and chintzes of the 1980s.

Magnolia is king, but too much fresh paint can arouse suspicions that something is being concealed. Agents enjoy tales of how they sold houses which were half-furnished but were thought to be the creations of interior decorators. The need for tidiness and cleanliness is obvious.

10 Learn tricks from builders' show homes. An air of expectation can be conjured by laying the dining-room table. Fresh flowers make sense. Silk flowers are a good stand-by.

You can also offer your house as a "guaranteed" home. The association offers a "home warranty" insurance, which covers the working parts of your home. The buyer gets 12 months' free cover. Selling a "guaranteed" home is common in the United States and seems likely to catch on here.

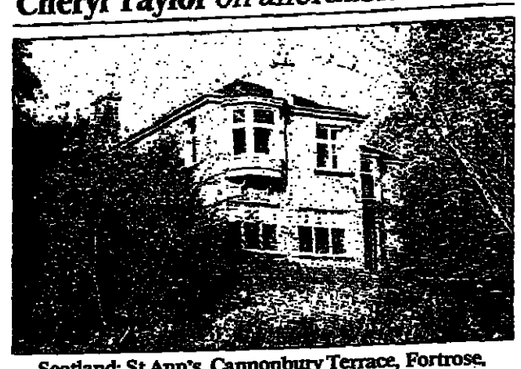
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Cheryl Taylor on affordable dreams



Scotland: St Ann's, Cannonbury Terrace, Fortrose, Black Isle, Highland. Substantial Victorian residence by the Moray Firth. Seven bedrooms, three reception rooms and billiards room. Plus four-bedroom flat. About £150,000 (GA Town and Country, 0349 64848).



Lincolnshire: Hagbeach Manor, Millgate, Waplode, Spalding. Grade II listed Georgian farmhouse in 1½ acres of gardens and paddocks. Four double bedrooms, three reception rooms, conservatory and outbuildings. About £159,950 (William H. Brown, 0777 704248).



Suffolk: London House, Charsfield, nr Woodbridge. Refurbished 15th-century village house with four bedrooms, bathroom, 30ft living/dining room, drawing room, galleried study, kitchen and cellars. About £148,000 (Strutt & Parker 0473 214841).

London: Flat U, 95 Eaton Square, SW1. Modern penthouse arranged over two period buildings on the north side of the square. Four bedrooms, two bathrooms, 45ft reception room and kitchen-breakfast room. About £140,000 for a nine-year lease (John D. Wood, 071-408 0055).

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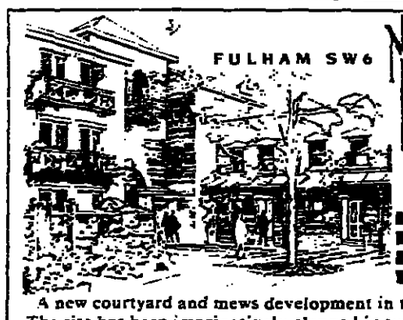
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هكذا من الأصل

Hilary Finch previews some of the most exciting events around the country this year

Sample a feast of talent in Britain



Jack-in-the-box: eccentric musician and dancer Ian Stuart presents his staged performance of Stockhausen's *Harlequin* at the Pavilion Theatre as part of the Brighton International Festival (see May)

MAY

BATH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
Multi-arts: music and performing arts

The last under the imaginative, if beleaguered, artistic directorship of *Amelia* Freedman, offers plenty of anniversary Grieg (including a visit from the chart-topping pianist, Leif Ove Andsnes). Also visits from St Petersburg Phil, Hungarian pianist Andras Schiff, and a jazz series with pianist Joanna MacGregor playing Django Bates.
May 21-June 6: Bath Festival, Linley House, Pierrepont Place, Bath BA1 1JY (0225 463362)

BRIGHTON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

The Royal Pavilion, George IV's summer palace, is the centre of festivities which this year focus on "Echoes and Ecology": the reinterpretation of ideas between different cultures and different media. *The Moscow Chamber Opera* makes its UK debut, with a Shostakovich and Stravinsky triple bill; the Brodsky Quartet with Elvis Costello; and an exciting literary and film programme. Also featuring musician/dancer Ian Stuart.
May 7-30: Festival information, 111 Church Street, Brighton BN1 1UD (0273 676926)

MALVERN FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, with emphasis on English, classical and choral music

This year's innovative festival plans world premieres of music by Ian Wilson, Anthony Powers and Martin Read. The statutory pomp and circumstance will be celebrated in an all-Elgar concert.
May 22-June 6: Malvern Festival, Grange Road, Malvern, Worcs WR14 3HB (0684 892277)

PERTH FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS
Music, opera, jazz

Despite cuts in its budget, Perth has put together a highly enterprising programme which includes visits from the Leipzig Radio Symphony Orchestra; the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra for Grieg year; and Perth Festival Opera in Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice*.
May 19-31: Perth Theatre, 195 High St, Perth PH1 5UW (0738 21031)

RAMSGATE SPRING FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, local events

In its second year, this mettlesome Cinque Port festival is extended now to two weeks of Dragon Boat racing, jazz, Haydn, Napoleonic tours, aerobatics, chamber music and puppet theatre.
May 22-June 5: 8 Rose Hill, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9HX (0843 580994)

SHEFFIELD CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Lindsay Quartet are at the Crucible Studio Theatre with guests including pianist Peter Frankl, the Nash Ensemble and folk musician Alistair Anderson.
May 8-22: 65 Rawcliffe Lane, York YO3 6SJ (0742 769922)



Joanna MacGregor (see Bath)

SWALEDALE FESTIVAL
Local culture, music

Traditionally an exemplary mix of local culture, this year's festival also promises the Lindsay Quartet, Yorkshire Bach Choir and Raglan Baroque.
May 28-June 13: Thornborough Hall, Leyburn, North Yorks (0748 850222)

JUNE

ALDEBURGH FESTIVAL
Classical music, visual, literary arts

Aldeburgh's programme this year features the Japanese Toru Takemitsu as composer-in-residence. Peter Paul Nash's second string quartet also receives its premiere, and there are performances of Britten's opera *Owen Wingrave*, a concert performance of Monteverdi's *Orfeo*, and an exhibition of Finnish architect Alvar Aalto.
June 11-27: Aldeburgh Foundation, High Street, Aldeburgh, Suffolk IP15 5AX (0728 453543)

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

The Seven Ages of Man is the theme for this year's festival which salutes the centenary of the Bournemouth Orchestras and hosts visits by percussionist Evelyn Glennie, pianist Imogen Cooper and the Chinese State Circus. Also a discussion with Fay Weldon on the dichotomy between arts and sciences.
June 5-20: Suite 2, Digby Chambers, Bournemouth BH1 1BA (0202 297327)

BRADFORD FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Multi-national and multi-disciplinary, the festival includes events from ballet to be-bop, classical music to film and street theatre.
June 18-July 4: Wool Exchange, Bradford BD1 1LE (0274 309199)

GARSINGTON OPERA

Founded in 1989, this festival of opera comes into its own as a substitute Glyndebourne. The dinner interval gives the opportunity to picnic in the Italian gardens or dine in a restaurant decorated with panelling from Glyndebourne's own auditorium. Stranss's *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Haydn's *L'infedelta delusa* and Mozart's *Figaro*.
June 18-July 5: Garsington Manor, Garsington, Oxford OX44 9DH (086 736636)

GWYL GREGYNOG
Classical music: emphasis on song and Welsh arts

Founded by the tenor Anthony Rolfe Johnson, the festival in a mock-Tudor mansion features the prize-winning performance of this year's Composer's Award of Wales; a recital by Young Musician of the Year, pianist Frederick Kempf; and a Victorian Welsh evening.
June 26-July 3: Gwyl Gregynog, University of Wales, Gregynog, Newton, Powys (0686 650224)

LUDLOW FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Ludlow's Norman castle doubles as open-air setting for a new production by Alan Cohen of *Othello* by Shakespeare, and performances by artists such as pianist Stephen Kovacevich and cellist Steven Isserlis.
June 26-July 11: Festival Box Office, Castle Square, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1AY (0584 872150)

LEICESTER INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

A more than usually accessible chamber music festival, held in the Leicester Museum and Art Gallery. Includes a series of Beethoven and Brahms, with artists such as the cellist Alexander Baillie, pianist Jeremy Menuhin and the New Budapest String Quartet.
June 4-13: Festival Office, Magazine House, 11 Newarke Street, Leicester LE1 5SN (0533 559711)

LUFTHANSA FESTIVAL OF BAROQUE MUSIC

This festival is now one of the most important Baroque events in Europe. The 350th anniversary of Monteverdi's death is celebrated in concerts of 17th-century Italian music. Also gala performance of Handel's Dettingen Te Deum. Most concerts in St James, Piccadilly, but also three Wigmore recitals this year.
June 1-July 2: 4 Bennett Park, Blackheath, London SE3 9RB (071-434 4003)

SPITALFIELDS FESTIVAL
Classical music, opera, education programmes

Hawksmoor's Christ Church is an irresistible festival venue. This year director Richard Hickox offers productions of Walton's *The Bear*, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*, and a world premiere of a music-theatre work by David Bedford called *Touristen Dachau*.
June 9-30: Christ Church Spitalfields, Commercial Street, London E1 6LY (071-377 0287)

ST MAGNUS FESTIVAL, ORKNEY
Music, theatre, local arts

A lively programme of both local and guest artists this year includes new music by Peter Maxwell Davies, Simon Holt and Josephine Wilson, a celebration of writer and poet George Mackay Brown, and visits from the Tallis Scholars and pianist Barry Douglas.
June 18-23: Dorothy Rushbrook, Strandal, 15 Nicolson Street, Kirkwall KW15 1BD (0856 872669)

JULY

BUXTON FESTIVAL
Music, cabaret, fringe arts

Creeping out of the shadow of the sad departure of its new artistic director, Jane Glover, the Buxton Festival attempts once again to haul itself back to its former glory. Opera North's Jonathan Miller production of Cimarosa's *Il matrimonio segreto* is backed up by the usual classical and jazz concerts, cabaret and fringe events.
July 14-August 1: 1 Crescent View, Hall Bank, Buxton, Derbys SK17 6EN (0298 70395)

CHELTENHAM INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

Becoming on the staid side, but with the odd surprise in its continuing juxtaposition of classical with contemporary music. This year's composer-in-residence is Michael Berkeley, whose first opera, *Baa Baa Black Sheep* will be performed by Opera North.
July 3-18: Cheltenham Town Hall, Imperial Square, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 1QA (0242 521621)

CHESTER SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, with local events

The centenary of war poet Wilfred Owen is celebrated in a stimulating programme of workshops, talks and recitals. Chester has also scooped the Russian pianist Tatyana Nikolaeva and promises Indian, Javanese and African music too.
July 23-31: Festival office, 8 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HB (0244 320722)



Streetwise: a Cajun band at 1992's Bradford Festival (see June)

CHICHESTER FESTIVITIES
Music, talks, events

Based on the cathedral whose foundation they celebrate, the festivities range widely over classical and jazz concerts, sculpture, fireworks and talks by the crime writer P.D. James and the BBC's foreign affairs correspondent, John Simpson.
July 4-20: Canon Gate House, South Street, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1PU (0243 785718)

CITY OF LONDON FESTIVAL
Music, drama, arts

St Paul's and Southwark Cathedrals, the Guildhall, Livery Halls and churches add to the attraction of this festival whose programme ranges from jazz and poetry to theatre.
July 4-21: City Arts Trust, Bishopsgate Hall, 230 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4QH (071-377 0540)

DARTINGTON INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL
Music and music-theatre

Five intensive weeks of music-making, and a festival of concerts in the medieval house and gardens of the Dartington Hall Estate. This year's music-theatre performances are of particular interest.
July 24-August 28: Dartington Hall, Totnes, Devon TQ9 6DE (0803 867068)



P.D. James (see Chichester)

HARROGATE FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

John Tavener is the featured composer and there are outdoor productions by the Harrogate Theatre of Beaumarchais's plays *The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Barber of Seville*.
July 29-August 12: Festival Office, Royal Baths, Harrogate, North Yorks HG1 2RR (0423 565757)

KINGS LYNN FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, with strong local focus

Artists and composers associated with the old Hansa port and its East Anglian environs feature this year, including the composer Vaughan Williams.
July 17-31: 27-29 King Street, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE30 1BR (0553 773578)

LICHFIELD FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, with strong local focus

Celebrating Tchaikovsky and also the 350th anniversary of the Siege of Lichfield. New commission from the composer Thea Musgrave, and visits from the Endellion String Quartet, Fretwork and Red Byrd.
July 9-18: 7 The Close, Lichfield WS13 7LD (0543 257298)

LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSICAL EISTEDDFOD

Berlioz's *Romeo and Juliet* from the BBC Phil; visits from the Ballet du Nord and Danish recorder player Michala Petri prove that Llangollen is not only about bards and long black hats..
July 6-11: Eisteddfod Office, Llangollen, Clwyd LL20 8NG (0978 860236)

WARWICK FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Warwick Castle is the setting for the Russian Fireworks Concerts which begin a Tchaikovsky-Rachmaninov-inspired programme featuring pianist Nikolai Demidenko, the Moscow String Quartet and the Rossica Choir. Also Shakespeare's *Othello* at Kenilworth Castle. *Twelfth Night* at Warwick.
June 30-July 11: Warwick Festival, Northgate, Warwick CV34 4JL (0926 496277)

YORK EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Britain's largest festival of early music this year focuses on Europe. Guest artists from Russia, the Czech Republic, Portugal and Germany.
July 9-18: YEMF, PO Box 226, York YO3 6ZU (0904 658 338)

AUGUST

ARUNDEL FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, with strong local focus

The castle, Victorian Gothic cathedral, Norman churches and inns are filled with events such as a new open-air production by the Oxford Stage Company of *The Comedy of Errors*, and Musica nell'Chiostro's Cesti opera, *Le disgrazie d'amore*, hot from its Italian festival premiere.
August 27-September 5: Festival Society, The Mary Gate, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9AT (0903 883690)

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Brian MacMaster really gets into his programme-planning stride this year, focussing on the operatic journeys of Verdi, the music of James Macmillan, new productions by Peter Stein, Robert Lepage and Robert Wilson, and a season of American Contemporary Dance. Full programme to be announced April 1. The massive Fringe festival runs from the same dates this year. Free programmes available from the end of June from the Fringe Office (send name, address and 60p in stamps).
August 15-September 4: Festival Office, 21 Market St, Edinburgh EH1 1BW (031-225 5756). Fringe Office, 180 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QS (031-226 5257/5259).

VALE OF GLAMORGAN FESTIVAL
Contemporary music

This much-lauded annual celebration of living composers focuses this year on American Minimalism.
August 24-30: St Donat's Arts Centre, Llantwit Major, South Glamorgan CF6 9WF (0446 794848)

THREE CHOIRS FESTIVAL

Europe's oldest choral festival visits Worcester this year, with celebrations of the music of Britten and performances of Handel's and Walton's *Belshazzar* oratorios. Lively fringe offers drama, jazz and poetry.
Aug 21-28: Festival secretary, 10A College Green, Worcester WR1 2LH

SEPTEMBER

CARDIFF MUSIC FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

"Musical innovation is full of danger to the state . . ." Plato's declaration inspires Cardiff to explore the relationship between the arts and society from Bach to Big Band. The festival also makes room for three Welsh National Opera productions: *Lucia di Lammermoor, Eugene Onegin* and *Falstaff*.
September 17-October 9: St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff, Wales (0222 342611)

NORTH WALES MUSIC FESTIVAL
Classical and Welsh music, jazz

The little hillside town of St Asaph boasts a cathedral whose superb accoustic inspired the late William Mathias to found his festival here. Two decades on, his music is celebrated alongside the centenary of Tchaikovsky's death in a festival which also includes jazz and Welsh harp music.
September 19-25: Festival Office, High St, St Asaph, Clwyd LL17 0RD (0745 584508)

SALISBURY FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Pianist David Owen Norris devises special 21st birthday celebrations for a festival of classical music, theatre, folk, jazz and, intriguingly, "conversations".
September 4-18: King's House, 65 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2EN (0722 323883)

SWANSEA FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Russia dominates this year: Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra, veteran pianist Tatyana Nikolaeva and the Shostakovich Piano Trio are among visitors to the Brangwyn Hall in an extensive festival which also features Welsh National Opera, and English Shakespeare Company in *Romeo and Juliet*.
September 27-November 6: Tourist Information Centre, Singleton Street, Swansea SA1 3QG (0792 468321)

OCTOBER

CANTERBURY FESTIVAL
Multi-arts, with strong local focus

To mark the 400th anniversary of the death of one of Canterbury's most famous sons, the playwright Christopher Marlowe, numerous interpretations of the *Faust* legend, within the context of the festival's "Dangerous Liaisons" theme. Early publicity gives tantalising suggestions of a resurrection appearance of Kent Opera . . .
October 5-23: Festival Offices, 59 Ivy Lane, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1TU (0227 452853)

NORFOLK AND NORWICH FESTIVAL
Multi-arts

Looks toward East Europe, with visits from the Glinka State Choir of St Petersburg and the Leipzig Chamber Opera. Visual arts and literary programme concentrates on William Blake.
October 7-17: Festival Ticket Shop, The Guildhall, Gaol Hill, Norwich NR2 1NF (0603 764764)

NOVEMBER

BELFAST FESTIVAL AT QUEENS
Multi-arts

The largest arts festival in Ireland, held on campus near the Botanical Gardens and in Frank Matcham's Opera House.
November 8-27: Festival House, 25 College Gardens, Belfast BT9 6BS (0232 667687)

HUDDERSFIELD CONTEMPORARY MUSIC FESTIVAL

One of the most exciting and important of its kind, this year featuring the music of Gyorgy Ligeti and the Kronos Quartet.
November 18-28: Festival Office, University Music Department, Huddersfield HD1 3DH (0484 425082)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 18

AGUARDIENTE

(b) A coarse kind of brandy made in Spain and Portugal. Also applied to any distilled spirituous liquor, from the Spanish *agua* water + *ardiente* burning: "Much of the fun of the fair consists in sipping aguardiente, a strong liqueur." D. H. Lawrence, *Plumed Serpent*: "The hateful sugar-cane brandy, aguardiente."

TAMURE

(c) A Tahitian dance, the *ori Tahiti*, from the Tahitian: "Palm trees and girls dancing the sexy tamure. Ah! the tamure! which was to the hula as whisky to milk."

KATABOTHRON

(a) A swallow-hole in a river or lake, ie a hole into which water disappears, from the Greek *kata* down + *bothros* a hole: "The torrents of the Morea are usually charged with reddish mud, sand, and pebbles, when they enter the katabothra, but are pure and limpid when they flow out again."

POTAGER

(b) A vegetable garden, from the French *potage* soup; Larry Durrell, *Spirit of Place*: "I calculate that with ten chickens and the excellent potager out there I shall just squeeze by." James Lees-Milne: "The north garden would be called the potager, were it in France. Vegetables, espaliers, roses, and lawns were neatly compartmented."

Next week: festivals on the Continent, plus the return of the What's On page

MUSIC: Profiles of two highly contrasting singers who are appearing in London this week; plus concert reviews and records

Tenor embarks on a life of Grimes

Ben Heppner has come a long way in a short while — but has no wish to hurry. **Richard Morrison** meets the Canadian invading Britten

For once, Mstislav Rostropovich — conducting concert performances of *Peter Grimes* at the Barbican — will not be the centre of attention. Singing the title role in the Britten opera is Ben Heppner, the burly young Canadian who is relatively unknown in Britain but has won golden opinions eleswhere.

He is not just a tenor but a *heldentenor*, which means that he has the vocal equipment — stamina and power as well as brilliant tone — to tackle the epic roles of Wagner and Strauss. Wisely, he is in no hurry. No point in racing into *Siegfried* at 35 and finding that you have reached your personal *Götterdämmerung* at 40.

"I'm not ready yet to do the Wagner roles that are for grown-ups," he says. "So far I have done *Mastersingers*, *Lohengrin* and *Flying Dutchman*. One day I will sing Siegfried, but I will probably do Tristan first, and even that won't be for another five years."

Heppner comes from a "cold little town" in British Columbia. His musical background is church choirs and school bands. He went to university in Vancouver expecting to end up as a school music teacher; instead he switched to the vocal performance course and got his first taste of opera: Haydn and Mozart. "In those days I had a very light voice. I could sing 'Un aura amorosa' and never tire. Not something I would claim today."

Winning a CBC singing competition was "a watershed: it made me think of making a living in this profession". But three years of training at Canadian Opera led to nothing. He was not the first to find that "making a living in this profession" was easier said than done. "For about five years I was in a desert. How did we survive? My wife and I shared a church music position, we both taught a bit and, towards the end, I temped with some insurance companies. It was a tough time."

The breakthrough came precisely five years ago, when Heppner won the New York Metropolitan Opera's national auditions. Later he was heard by the great Wagnerian soprano Birgit Nilsson, who offered him performances at the Royal Opera in Stockholm.

"She chose *Lohengrin* for me. Who was I to argue?" Did she tell him how to sing it, too? "Only one comment, and that was after the first night, not before. She phoned me and said: 'May I give you a piece of advice? Don't sing upstage.' I replied: 'Er yes, but, er, there are certain times when . . .' 'Oh, I know *why* you do it,' she said. 'Just don't.' "

Singing upstage or not, Heppner rose swiftly. Every opera house in the world is crying out for big-voiced tenors. Now he tackles *Peter Grimes* for the first time, a role written for the notably small-voiced Peter Pears. Does Heppner feel comfortable with a role tailor-made for a very different tenor?

"Most of it fits easily; it is simply good writing. An exception is, unfortunately, one of the most wonderful moments, where Grimes sings 'Now the Great Bear and Pleiades'. Pears must have had the ability to sustain an E natural for his entire life. For the rest of us, it is somewhat troublesome: it lies at the most difficult point in the voice."

What of Grimes the man? He hits *his girlfriend, beats his boy apprentices* and perhaps even kills them. Does Heppner sympathise with him? "You have to find something you like in a character you are portraying. I refused to do the Drum Major in *Wozzeck* for that reason: he was a character I couldn't like. *Grimes does have his vision* and his intelligence; he is bright enough to understand and feel his own predicament."

However, Heppner rejects the interpretation of Grimes as an ostracised homosexual — in fact, as Britten himself. "If we allow the 'outsider versus crowd' theme to be narrowed down to one special interest, we are limiting the opera's possibilities. The vital thing is that at the end, when Peter sinks his boat, the audience must be made to ask themselves: am I there with him on the boat, or am I one of the spectators on the shore? After all, many of us experience being an outsider of one sort or another. I remember the stigma I felt, in a tough Canadian town, of being the only boy who sang in a choir."

Peter Grimes as traumatised choirboy? That is a concept not yet dreamt up by the Pountneys and Kupfers. Whether the substantially sized Heppner would fit the concept is another matter. Some choirboy. Some neck. Some voice.

● *Peter Grimes is at the Barbican Hall (071-638 8891) tomorrow and Wednesday at 7.30pm.*



TONY WHITE

"Peter Pears must have had the ability to sustain an E natural for his entire life. For the rest of us, it is somewhat troublesome: it lies at the most difficult point in the voice": Ben Heppner relishes the challenge

Enjoy a good reed

RECORDS

A RECENT recording from the **Chamber Orchestra of Europe** delves into an intriguing area in the history of wind music. The oboe was first used in Venice, at the opera, in 1692, and it is thought that one of the foundlings from the Venetian *ospedale* where Antonio Vivaldi taught was the dedicatee of his Sixth Oboe Concerto, played here by the COE's principal oboe, Douglas Boyd (Deutsche Grammophon 435 873-2).

La Pellegrina, as the poor girl was called, must have been pretty nifty with the reed, if Boyd's playing is anything to go by. He fashions bright filigree out of the endless passagework, and coaxes a wide variety of tone and contour out of the chains of sequences.

In the Concerto in B Flat, RV548, he is joined by the COE's excellent leader, Marieke Blankestijn. They deflect bright lights off each other against their orchestra's lithe playing.

Blankestijn's finely-drawn violin playing is heard again in the wonderful prelude to the Benedictus, featured on a new recording of **Beethoven's Missa Solemnis** (Teldec 9031-74884-2). Here the COE is conducted by Nikolaus Harnoncourt in the live performance which opened last summer's Salzburg Festival.

The vast variety of breath, pulse and tempo in Beethoven's great "prayer for peace within and without" is heard, considered and most powerfully recreated by Harnoncourt in a performance of deep commitment and raw spirituality. Harnoncourt recognises the expressive value of conflict and effort in Beethoven's writing: he positively encourages the tenors of the excellent Arnold Schoenberg Choir to strain their voices to the limit in the "Quoniam tu solus".

Moreover, he discourages any one of his handpicked soloists (Eva Mei, Marjana Lipovsek, Anthony Rolfe Johnson and Robert Holl) from giving a mere star performance. That is all too rare in recordings of this work.

Rare, too, is the care with which Harnoncourt — whose *background, of course, is in* period performance — persuades the COE (not normally a period-instrument band) to replace valved with natural trumpets, use trombones with a narrow bore, and older, smaller timpani. This helps to shift the balance of dynamics and texture in this outstanding performance.

HILARY FINCH



MICHAEL POWELL

Come to the cabaret: Ute Lemper, like Marlene Dietrich, exudes a mixture of hauteur and theatrical artifice, but she feels greater affinity with Edith Piaf

Never call her a Weill body

With her new show, Ute Lemper expands her musical and dramatic range

Until now Ute Lemper's name has been associated with the music of Kurt Weill — so much so, in fact, that some critics have dared to compare her to Lotte Lenya. With her new venture, the young German vocalist is consciously extending her range. Her show, *Illusions*, which comes to Sadler's Wells next week, is built around songs associated with Marlene Dietrich and Edith Piaf.

The Dietrich connection seems logical enough. After all, Lemper exudes a similar mixture of hauteur and theatrical artifice. Yet she actually feels a greater affinity with the ill-fated Piaf, the eternal waif. "Both women created their own mystique, but Piaf put all her personal pain and suffering into her work. She was born to give and not to take. When she was singing, she was simply being herself. Dietrich is the opposite. Her performances are very stylised, and not as emotional."

Lemper began work on the show some two years ago. The project has already yielded an album and a video (both on Decca), though Lemper stresses that she has made extensive changes to the material since then. In the current show, which has been touring Europe, North America and Japan, she appears with just a string quartet and her musical director, the pianist Bruno Fontaine. The songs have been opened out to form self-contained miniature dramas, and we are promised a sprinkling of contemporary dance (Lemper's previous credits include a ballet, *La Morte Subite*, created for her by Maurice Béjart).

Admirers of her interpretations of the Brecht-Weill canon will be relieved to hear that some songs, such as "Moon of Alabama", have found their *way into Illusions. Also woven* into the music is a portentous subtext concerning the decline of the contemporary metropolis and the constraints on individualism in a mass consumerist society. Lemper describes the lyrics in terms of "existentialist love songs", a concept which perhaps reflects her jaundiced view of post-unification Germany.

She is in the process of uprooting herself from Berlin, where she has lived for the past year, and moving to Paris, where she would enjoy a degree of anonymity denied her at home. "In France or England I'm still a very marginal artist. In Germany I cannot go anywhere without being pestered. All the media there want to know about is your love-life, your weight, your little scandals, your flops and sensations."

As for the future, one of her principal ambitions is to exercise absolute control over her work, without locking herself into a rigid career structure. "I want to have the freedom to go through a completely different door to satisfy my curiosity."

CLIVE DAVIS

● *Ute Lemper's Illusions is at Sadler's Wells Theatre (071-278 8916) from Thursday to Saturday.*

CONCERT REVIEWS: The CBSO explores the 1920s; a Flemish orchestra makes its London debut

Delights from the age of deco

If any one work represents the style of the 1920s, though obviously not the reality of the decade, it is *L'Enfant et les sortilèges*. With text by Colette and score by Ravel it is the essential art deco opera: while retaining the modish colours and motifs and the popular fads irresistibly intact, it develops decorative art to the status of the finest fine art.

So, in their the millennium survey of the 1920s (Symphony Hall, Birmingham), Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra were well-advised to cast the work with the care of an opera company facing a whole season of it. They certainly deserved better luck than to have two of their star performers, Amanda Roocroft and Robert Tear, withdraw through illness, and then to find that the former's replacement, Rosemary Hardy, had succumbed to a throat infection too.

Good intentions were rewarded in spite of everything. Characterisation — from Elise Ross's Child to Christine Cairns's Dragonfly, and from Lillian Watson's elevated story-book Princess to Mary King and David Wilson-Johnson's two cats and David Thomas's wounded Tree — was both highly entertaining and technically accomplished. The Chamber Choir of the Welsh College of Music and Drama was as well prepared as the orchestra.

The concert had begun with Frank Bridge's *Enter Spring*, a work which knocked the 14-year-old Benjamin Britten "sideways" when he first heard it at the Norwich Festival in 1927 and which inspired him to persuade the composer to teach him.

The work is scarcely typical of the British 1920s, but that — its sustained energy, its avoidance of modal meandering, its witty rather than wistful imitation of natural sounds — is precisely what makes it so valuable. Bearing in mind Bridge's genius and the extraordinary precocity of his pupil, it is surprising only that they didn't achieve even more than they did. Britten's Four French Songs, persuasively sung on this occasion by Lynda Russell, must be one of the most promising scores by any teenager ever.

GERALD LARNER

Flanders fields its best

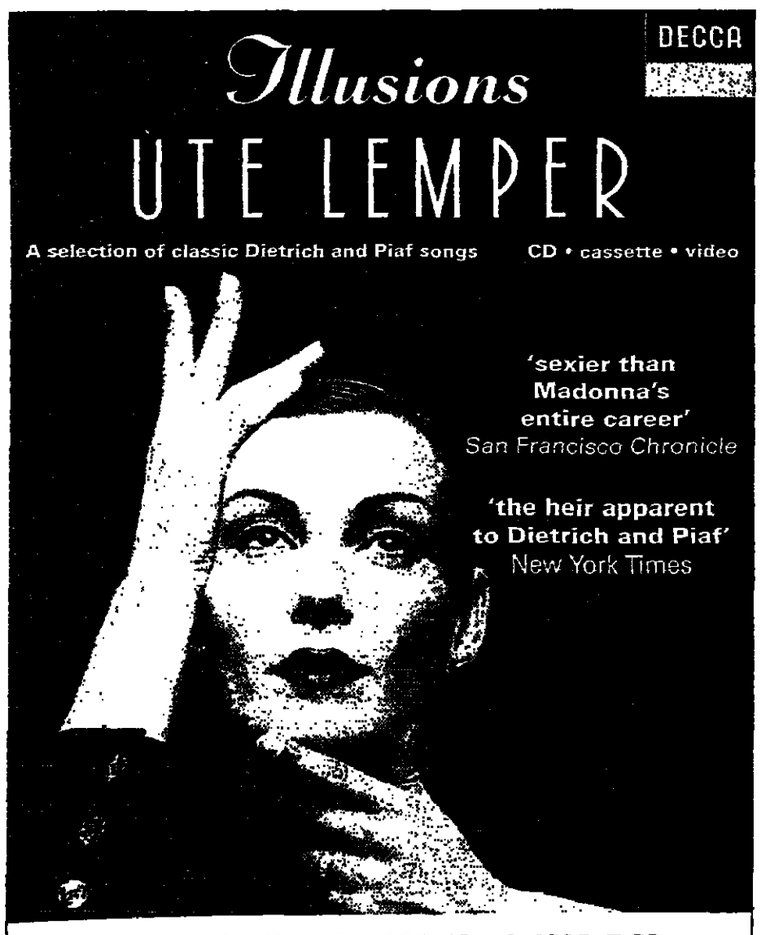
The Orchestra of Flanders (I Fiamminghi) chose a conventional programme for its London debut concert at the Barbican.

Tchaikovsky and Beethoven afforded the kind of calling-card that told listeners only so much about the medium-sized orchestra's character, although in the former's Serenade for Strings a rich and warm sonority was to be savoured even from a string ensemble at less than full numerical strength. The music director, Rudolf Werthen, compensated for a perfunctory waltz by spirited and flexible direction in the other movements.

During Beethoven's Seventh Symphony there were hints of something out of the ordinary when the conductor imparted an almost 18th-century feel to the second movement, for instance, by *way of strings in modest* numbers, drained of romantic vibrato, and less than sweet-toned woodwind. He ensured that nothing was lacking in energy or vitality. But there is more to be conveyed in this work than rhythmic efficiency, and one missed the overlay of character to be expected from the wind sections at crucial moments. Craggier contours were apt to be smoothed into an all-purpose blandness.

For the Cello Concerto No 1 by Saint-Saëns the soloist was France Springuel, otherwise to be found leading the orchestral cellos. She took charge with a dramatic first entry, and filled the concerto's small musical dimensions with a distinctively personal assurance. Would that other orchestras gave such opportunities to solo talent within their own ranks.

NOEL GOODWIN



Thursday 18th – Saturday 20th March 1993, 7.30pm
SADLER'S WELLS
Illusions – songs of Dietrich, Piaf, Weill and Sondheim
Ticket Prices: £18.50, £15.50, £12.50, £7.50
Box Office 071-278 8916
Ute Lemper will sign copies of *Illusions* at Farringdons Records, Leadenhall Market, EC3 on Wednesday 17th March at 12.30pm

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THE SUNDAY TIMES
Hollywood vs America
How can our society remain indifferent to the desensitising effects of violence and brutality which are offered as entertainment to a new generation of filmgoers?
Has the time now come for reasonable and concerned citizens to challenge the moguls of the film industry whose considerable influence is exerted without responsibility of its consequences?
. . . one letter from the huge postbag received following The Sunday Times' serialisation of Michael Medved's book Hollywood vs America. Tomorrow, The Culture section continues the debate with a selection of readers' letters



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CONCERTS

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ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Sun 14 Mar 7.30	**PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** Yevgeny Svetlanov (cond) Joshua Bell (violin) Steven Isserlis (cello) Olli Mustonen (piano) Beethoven Triple Concerto; Rachmaninov Symphony No.2. £28, £22, £17, £10, £5, £4 *Philharmonia Ltd
Mon 15 Mar 7.30	**LONDON SINFONIETTA** Towards the Millennium 1921-1930 Simon Rattle (cond). Bartók Village Scenes; Janácek Říkadla; Villa-Lobos Choros 3, Vaughan Williams Flos Campi; Stravinsky Les Noces. £20, £16, £12.50, £9, £5 Sinfonietta Prods Ltd/*SBC
Wed 17 Mar 7.30	**PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** Lawrence Foster (conductor) Alfred Brendel (pno) Busoni Conc for Orch; Haydn Pno Conc in D; Beethoven Pno Conc No.4; Hindemith Symphonic Metamorphoses £22, £17, £10, £5, £4 (ONLY) *Philharmonia Ltd
Thu 18 Mar 7.30	**THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH Mariss Jansons (cond) Leif Ove Andsnes (pno) Rossini Ov. The Italian Girl in Algiers; Rachmaninov Pno Conc No.3; Dvorák Sym No.9 (From the New World). RETURNS ONLY *LP Ents
Fri 19 Mar 7.30	**POPULAR CLASSICS** London Concert Orch. Rossini Ov. Barber of Seville, Grieg Pno Conc; Ravel Bolero; Elgar Pomp & Circumstance No.1; Tchaikovsky 1812 Ov & wks by Mascagni, Sousa & J.Strauss. £21,£19,£17,£15,£11.50,£8.50,£6.50 R Gubbay

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Sat 13 Mar 7.45	**MEDICI STRING QUARTET, JACK BRYMER** (clarinet) Schubert String Qtet, D.810 (Death & the Maiden); George Martin 3 American Sketches (1st Lond perf.), Lloyd Orchard Songs we knew; Mozart Clar Quintet. £13, £10 (ONLY) Kingston University
Sun 14 Mar 7.45	**DEBUSSY: THE COMPLETE SOLO PIANO WORKS** Paul Crossley (pno) Mazurka; Le petit nègre; Images, Book 1; La plus que lente; Hommage à Haydn; Elégie; Page d'album; Berceuse héroïque; 12 Etudes. £12, £10, £9, £8 Van Walsum Mgt Ltd
Mon 15 Mar 7.45	**GUO CHANG & GUO CHING** (violins) Patsy Toh (piano) Beethoven Son for vln & pno. Op.30/2; Schubert 4 Impromptus for pno, Op.90; Bartók Duo for 2 vlns; Seiber Duo for 2 vlns; Franck Son in A for vln & pno. £7, £5 *Chinese Cultural Centre
Tue 16 Mar 7.45	**MOZART & BAYREUTH** Ambache Chamber Orchestra, Diane Ambache (dir/pno) Sophie Langdon (dir) Wilhelmine von Bayreuth Piano Conc in G min (1st modern London perf.); Mozart Sym No.40; Piano Conc in G, K.453. £13, £10, £8, £6 ACO
Wed 17 Mar 7.45	**LONDON MOZART PLAYERS** Matthias Bamert (cond) Howard Shelley (piano) Frank Martin Passacaglia for Strings; Mozart Piano Conc in E flat, K.449; Six German Dances, K.509; Tchaikovsky Serenade. £15, £12, £10, £8 *Haydn-Mozart Society
Thu 18 Mar 7.45	**BLACKMAIL** Towards the Millennium: 1921-1930. Matrix Ensemble, Robert Ziegler (cond) The classic silent Hitchcock thriller is given new life with this screening to the live accompaniment of a score by Jonathan Lloyd. £12.50, £10.50, £7.50 BR
Fri 19 Mar 7.45	**KATHLEEN BATTLE** (sop) International Song Recital Series. Prog inc Schumann Meine Rose; Aufträge; Er ist's etc; Strauss Ständchen; Der Nacht; Wiegenlied etc; Bizet Chanson d'avril etc; Previn Honey & Rue (selection). £30,£23,£16 (ONLY) AMI Ltd*SBC

PURCELL ROOM

Sun 14 Mar 8.00	**ARDITTI SCHOENBERG CYCLE** Arditti String Quartet †Thomas Kakuska (viola) †Valentin Erben (cello) †member of Alban Berg Qtet Webern String Qtet, Op.28; Rondo for String Qtet; Schoenberg String Qtet No.3; Verklärte Nacht. £10, £8, £5 *SBC
Tue 16 Mar 8.00	**CAPRICORN** Towards the Millennium: 1921-1930. R Hamilton (cond), T Dives, J Amis. Poulenc Trio for oboe, bsn & pno; Ravel Chansons Madécasses; Martinu La revue de cuisine; Walton Façade for reciter & ensemble. £10.50, £8.50, £5 Capricorn/*SBC

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SCHUBERT.......Symphony No 9 in C "The Great"
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WIGMORE HALL

Saturday 13 March 7.30 pm	STEPHEN HOUGH piano. Piano Series. Byrd: Pavan & Galliard 1 & 6. Beethoven: Sonata in C minor Op.111; Corigliano: Etude Fantasy; Chopin: 3 Mazurkas; Barcarolle in F sharp Op.60; Halévy/Liszt: Réminiscences de La Juive: Fantaisie brillante. £11, £9, £7, £5 HoM
Sunday 14 March 11.30 am NB: starting time	MIKHAIL RUDY piano. Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Chopin: Nocturne in D flat Op.27 No.2; Sonata in B flat minor Op.35; Mussorgsky: In Tears: Pictures at an Exhibition. £6 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice
Monday 15 March 7.30 pm	SARA FULGONI mezzo soprano, STEVEN MAUGHAN piano. Gordon Crosse: Voice from the Tomb; Poulenc: Le Bestiaire; Wagner: Wesendonck Lieder, Songs by Chabrier and Jacques Brel. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 Edward Boyle Memorial Concert/Anglo-European Arts
Tuesday 16 March 7.30 pm	MELVYN TAN fortepiano. Early Music & Baroque Series. Beethoven: Sonata in G Op.31 No.1; Sonata in D minor Op.31 No.2 Tempest; Sonata in E Op.14 No.1; Sonata in B flat Op.22. £11, £9, £7, £5 Valerie Barber Concert Management
Wednesday 17 March 7.30 pm	MARC LAFORET Piano Series. Silver Medallist 1985 International Chopin Competition, Warsaw. All Chopin Recital: Impromptu No 1 Op.29; 4 Mazurkas; Sonata in B minor Op.58; Preludes Op 28 £10, £8, £6, £4 Georgina Ivor Associates
Thursday 18 March 7.30 pm	MAXIM VENGEROV violin (Only UK recital this season). ITAMAR GOLAN piano. Chamber Music Series. Mozart: Sonata in B flat K454; Beethoven: Sonata in F Op.24 Spring; Brahms: Sonata in A Op.100; Saint-Saëns: Introduction & Rondo capriccioso Op.28. £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50 AMB Ltd
Friday 19 March 7.30 pm	ELDAR NEBOLSIN piano. Santander International Piano Competition 1992 Grand Prize. Beethoven: Sonata in E flat Op.31 No.3; Liszt: Dante Sonata; Gubaidulina: Chaconne; Chopin: 2 Mazurkas, 2 Waltzes, Sonata in B minor Op.58, Debussy & Scriabin. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 Jane Gaty
Saturday 20 March 7.30 pm	NASH ENSEMBLE. WIGMORE HALL COMMEMORATIVE SERIES 5 Judith Howarth, Jean Rigby, Robert Tear, Henry Herford. SCHUMANN ANNIVERSARY CONCERT. (First presented in 1910) Andante & Variations; Spanisches Liederspiel Op.74, Adagio & Allegro Op.70; Piano Quintet Op.44. £12, £10, £8, £6 NCS

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SPECTACULAR GRAND CLASSICAL GALA
EXCITING FIREWORKS DISPLAY
National Symphony Orchestra
Fanfare Trumpeters of the Grenadier Guards
Pro Musica Chorus
Goldsmiths Choral Union
Cond DAVID COLEMAN
Ten BONAVENTURA BOTTONE
Mendelssohn Overture, Fingal's Cave
Donizetti Una furtiva lagrima
Vaughan Williams Greensleeves
Orff O Fortuna Carmina Burana
Dukas The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Puccini E lucevan le stelle
Verdi Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves
Wagner The Ride of the Valkyries
Handel Hallelujah Chorus Messiah
Verdi La donna è mobile
Khachaturian Sabre Dance
Johann Strauss Radetzky March
Ravel Boléro
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Beethoven.........PIANO CONCERTO No.5 'EMPEROR'
Elgar.............................POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE No 4
Vaughan Williams.......FANTASIA ON GREENSLEEVES
Johann Strauss..................................RADETZKY MARCH
Johann Strauss....TALES FROM THE VIENNA WOODS
Sibelius...FINLANDIA
Mussorgsky..PROMENADE & THE GREAT GATE OF KIEV from Pictures at an Exhibition
£8.50 £12.50 £16.50 £18.50 £21 071 638 8891

RAYMOND GUBBAY presents
at the BARBICAN
Box Office/CC 071-638 8891

SUNDAY 21 MARCH at 7.30 pm
OPERA GALA NIGHT
Starring JOSEPHINE BARSTOW *soprano*
ROSSINI Ov. *The Barber of Seville*; *VERDI* Macduff's Aria & La Luce Langue *(Macbeth)*; Miserere *(Il Trovatore)*; Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves *(Nabucco)*; Prelude *(La Traviata)*; Pace Pace *(La Forza del Destino)*; Celeste Aida, Ritorna Vincitor, Grand March & Ballet Music *(Aida)*; *PUCCINI* Recondita Armonia, Vissi D'Arte, E Lucevan le Stelle & Act 1 Duet *(Tosca)*; Humming Chorus *(Madam Butterfly)*; Nessun Dorma *(Turandot)*; *MASCAGNI* Voi Le Sapete, Intermezzo & Easter Hymn *(Cavalleria Rusticana)*
EDMUND BARHAM tenor LONDON CHORAL SOCIETY
FANFARE TRUMPETERS OF THE BAND OF THE SCOTS GUARDS
LONDON CONCERT ORCH PAUL WYNNE-GRIFFITHS cond
£9.50, £13.50, £17.50, £21.50, £25

SATURDAY 27 MARCH at 8 pm
THE GLORY OF MOZART
The Marriage of Figaro Overture
Piano Concerto No.23 K488
Horn Concerto No.3 in E flat, K447
Symphony No.41 (Jupiter)
ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
ANDREW CONSTANTINE conductor
PHILIP FOWKE piano FRANK LLOYD horn
£9.50, £12.50, £17.50, £19.50, £21.50

SATURDAY 10 APRIL at 7.30 pm
OPERA GALA NIGHT
VERDI Grand March *(Aida)*; Tutte le feste; Quartet *(Rigoletto)*; *ROSSINI* Una voce poco fa; Largo al factotum *(Barber of Seville)*; *DONIZETTI* Twent scudis *(L'Elisir d'amore)*; Pietose al par del nun *(La Favorita)*; *BORODIN* Polovtsian Dances *(Prince Igor)*; *PUCCINI* Humming Chorus *(Madam Butterfly)*; *PONCHIELLI* Dance of the Hours *(La Gioconda)*; *SMETANA* Ov. *(The Bartered Bride)*
BBC CONCERT ORCH. ANDREW GREENWOOD cond
ROSA MANNION sop, CLAIRE POWELL mezzo
BONAVENTURA BOTTONE ten, DONALD MAXWELL btone
AMBROSIAN OPERA CHORUS
FANFARE TRUMPETERS OF THE BAND OF THE SCOTS GUARDS Presented by JOHN DUNN
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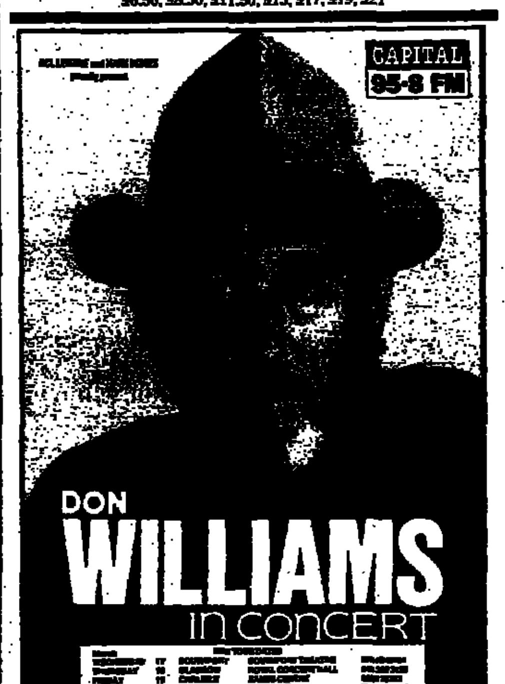
SUNDAY 11 APRIL at 7.30 pm
THE GLORY OF EASTER
HANDEL Arrival of the Queen of Sheba; Water Music Suite; Let the Bright Seraphim *(Samson)*; I know that my Redeemer Liveth *(Messiah)*; Music for the Royal Fireworks; *SCHUBERT* Ave Maria; *CLARKE* Trumpet Suite; *STANLEY* Trumpet Voluntary; *ALBINONI* Adagio; *MOZART* Alleluiah *(Exsultate Jubilate)*; *FRANCK* Panis Angelicus; *ADAMS* The Holy City; *BACH* Sleepers Awake *(Lloyds Bank Black Horse theme)*; Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA PHILIP SIMMS conductor
CRISPIAN STEELE-PERKINS trumpet EIRIAN DAVIES soprano
£7.50, £10.50, £13.50, £16.50, £18.50

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FRIDAY NEXT 19 MARCH at 7.30 pm
– POPULAR – CLASSICAL GALA
Classic.. after Classic.. after Classic
Rossini..........................OVERTURE, BARBER OF SEVILLE
Sousa.......................................LIBERTY BELL MARCH
Mascagni.....INTERMEZZO (CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA)
Grieg..PIANO CONCERTO
Ravel..BOLERO
Johann Strauss.........................MORNING PAPERS WALTZ
Elgar...............POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE MARCH NO.1
Tchaikovsky...1812 OV. (CANNON & MORTAR EFFECTS)
LONDON CONCERT ORCHESTRA
FRASER GOULDING cond LORA DIMITROVA piano
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SUNDAY 11 APRIL at 7.30 pm
THE FOUR SEASONS
HANDEL Arrival of the Queen of Sheba
MOZART Eine kleine Nachtmusik
MOZART Piano Concerto No.21, K467
VIVALDI The Four Seasons
ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
IAN WATSON cond, STEPHANIE GONLEY violin
£6.50, £8.50, £11.50, £15, £17, £19, £21

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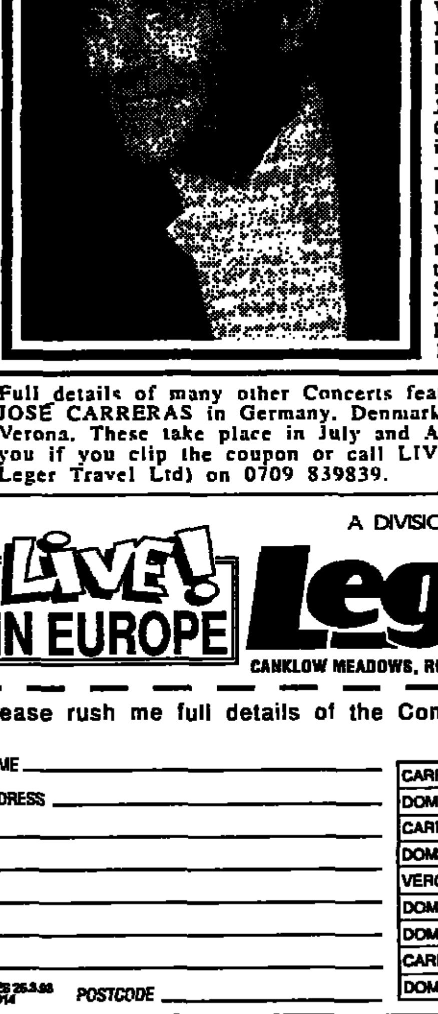
BARBICAN HALL
071-638 8891 9AM–8PM DAILY

Fri 19 March 7.30pm	BEETHOVEN & TIPPETT BBC Symphony Orchestra, Andrew Davis cond., Mikhail Rudy piano, Faye Robinson sop. Tippett The Wolf Trap Fanfare Beethoven Piano Concerto No.3 Tippett Symphony No.3 £9 (concs £4) BBC Radio 3 FM
Sat 20 March 7.30pm	MOZART REQUIEM Goldsmiths Choral Union, Wren Orchestra of London, Brian Wright cond., Julie Kennard, Phillida Bannister, Richard Edgar Wilson, Geoffrey Davidson soloists. Prog. also inc. Britten Cantata Misericordium, Stravinsky Mass for Wind and Semi-Chorus £19 £16.50 £13 £10.50 £6.50 Goldsmiths Choral Union
Mon 22 March 7.30pm	ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA Jeffrey Tate cond., Roberta Alexander sop. Copland Three Latin American Sketches Britten Suite on English Folk Tunes A time there was Barber Knoxville: Summer of 1915 Britten Les Illuminations Ives Three Places in New England £18 £15 £12 £9 £6 £4 English Chamber Orchestra and Music Society
Thu 25 March 7.30pm	YURI BASHMET Viola. Yuri Bashmet Series London Symphony Orchestra, Valery Gergiev cond. Brahms Orch. Bach Sonata No.1 in F minor Bartók Viola Concerto Schnittke Viola Concerto £8 £9.50 £13 £15 £20 £28 LSO Ltd
Fri 26 March 7.30pm	ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Paul Daniel cond., Joan Rodgers sop. Mozart Symphony No.31 Paris Mozart Exsultate Jubilate, K165 Mahler Symphony No.4 £22 £17 £13 £9 £8 £6 NEC INTERNATIONAL SERIES RPO Ltd

CHORAL MUSIC FOR EASTER
THURSDAY 8 APRIL 7.30PM
Handel : Messiah
CITY OF LONDON SINFONIA
ADRIAN LEAPER conductor
MELANIE ARMISTEAD, YVONNE HOWARD, ANDREW TUSA, ANDREW GREENAN soloists
Joyful Company of Singers
Tickets £18, £15, £12, £9, £5

GOOD FRIDAY 9 APRIL 7.00PM
Bach : St John Passion
sung in German
ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC
CHRISTOPHER HOGWOOD conductor
CHARLES DANIELS Evangelist,
OLIVER WIDMER Christus
PATRICIA ROZARIO, CAROLYN WATKINSON, NEILL ARCHER, DAVID THOMAS soloists
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CARRERAS - MUNSTER CASTLE	- JULY 16th	
DOMINGO - AACHEN WALD	- JULY 17th	
VERONA OPERA AIR & COACH	- JULY/AUG	
DOMINGO - VERONA OPERA	- JULY 2nd	
DOMINGO - HEIDELBERG	- JULY 31st	
CARRERAS & DOMINGO in GERMANY	- JULY 16th/17th	
DOMINGO & PAVAROTTI - NEW YORK	- SEPT 27th	

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ALDWYCH BO/CC 071 836 6404 CC 497 9977 (24hr) no bkg fees MAGGIE SMITH ALEX JENNINGS SUSANNAH HARKER RICHARD E. GRANT CLAIRE SKINNER RICHARD PEARSON MARGARET TYZACK THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST by OSCAR WILDE Dir by NICHOLAS HYTNER Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Wed+Sat 2.30

APOLLO BO/CC 071 494 5070/071 344 4444/497 9977 Penelope Wilton Linus Roache Nicholas Jones THE DEEP BLUE SEA by TERENCE RATTIGAN KAREL REISZ'S masterly production is a REVELATION S. Times "An overwhelming dramatic experience" D. Tel Reduced price previews from Tuesday Opens March 22 at 7 Mon-Fri 7.45 Mat Wed 3.00 Sat 4.00 & 8.00

APOLLO VICTORIA SS cc 630 6262 Groups 828 6188 cc 24hr 071 344 4444/497 9977 071 379 9901 Groups 930 6123 "Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS "A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £9.00 - £28.00

COMEDY BO/CC 071 867 1045/071 344 4444/497 9977 BEST REVIVAL BEST ACTOR Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards "This production is A MAJOR EVENT: No one should miss it. If you've seen it, SEE IT AGAIN" Sun Times Paul Eddington Harold Pinter NO MAN'S LAND by Harold Pinter Eves 8 Mats Thu 3 Sat 5

CRITERION BO/cc 839 4488 (cc 24hr no fee) 344 4444/(cc with fee) 071-497 9977 Grps 930 6123 SHARON GLESS BILL PATERSON MISERY Based on Stephen King's novel Written & dir. by Simon Moore "Gripping Stuff" "If You Can Take It" S. Tel Eves 8. Wed Mat 3. Sat Mat 4 From 25 March with JULIE T WALLACE NIGEL LE VAILLANT Now booking to 12 June

DOMINION CC HOTLINE 071 413 1411 (24hr) information 071 580 8845/9562 GREASE Starring CRAIG McLACHLAN Prevs 5 July Opens 15 July

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 071 494 5001/344 4444/240 7200/379 9901 Grps 831 8685/494 5454 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 4TH SENSATIONAL YEAR Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs apply B.O. NOW BOOKING UNTIL OCT 93 FOR TELEPHONE POSTAL BOOKINGS/PERSONAL CALLERS 071 494 5060 NO FEE

DUCHESS cc 071 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) Groups 071-413 3321 Eves 8pm. Wed mat 3pm. Sat 5pm & 8.30 NOW IN ITS 2ND YEAR "A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER "Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

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FORTUNE BO & CC 071 836 2238 CC 344 4444/497 9977/379 9901 (24hr/bkg fees) Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian "A REAL THRILL" S. Times "Take tranquillisers" T. Out Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tue 3 Sat 4 NOW BOOKING TO JUNE

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GLOBE BO/CC 071 494 5067 (bkg fee)071 344 4444/497 9977 MARTIN SHAW Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards Peter Hall's beguiling and revelatory production" E Std Anna Carteret Michael Denison Hannah Gordon Dulcie Gray Martin Shaw David Yelland OSCAR WILDE'S AN IDEAL HUSBAND A triumph... audiences are advised to beat a path to the Globe" S. Times Eves 7.45 Mats Thu 3, Sat 4

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL 071 930 8800 (inc cc no bkg fee) 071 344 4444 (with bkg fee) ROBERT LINDSAY "SUPERB" D Exp "A SHINING STAR" Indp as CYRANO DE BERGERAC "SPECTACULAR, SWASHBUCKLING... Marvellously Passionate" D Tel adapted by JOHN WELLS Directed by ELIJAH MOSHINSKY Eves 7.30 Wed & Sat Mats 2.30

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LYRIC, Shaftes Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 071 344 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee). cc 497 9977 Grps 071 930 6123 The Joint Never Stops Jumpin FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE THE OLIVIER AWARD WINNING MUSICAL 3RD GREAT YEAR Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat at 6 & 8.45 BOOKING UNTIL END APR '93

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Today 2.00 & 7.15 AN INSPECTOR CALLS by J.B. Priestley Mon 7.15 TRELAWNY OF THE 'WELLS' by Arthur Wing Pinero LYTTELTON Rodgers and Hammerstein's CAROUSEL Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.15 Day seats and returns only. COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7.30 THE GAME OF LOVE AND CHANCE by Pierre Marivaux (trans Neil Bartlett) Today 10.30 THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW for 4 to 7 year olds by Roel Adam (trans Noel Clark) Mon 7.30 BILLY LIAR by Keith Waterhouse & Willis Hall

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PRINCE OF WALES 071 839 5972 cc (24hr/no bkg fee) 836 2428 Groups 071 413 3321 CITY OF ANGELS A New Musical by Larry Gelbart Cy Coleman David Zippel Directed by Michael Blakemore Red price prevs from 19 March £10.00 OFF ALL SEAT PRICES Opens 30 March

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ROYAL COURT 071 730 1745 /2554 cc 836 2428/8122 KING LEAR Eves 7.30, Sat Mats 2.30.

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ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 344 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45. Sat 5.0 and 8.0 41st Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND BO/CC 071 930 8800 (no bkg fee) cc 344 4444 (bkg fee) MAUREEN LIPMAN ROSEMARY HARRIS 'A MAGIC COMBINATION' D.Mail in NEIL SIMON'S LOST IN YONKERS Directed by DAVID TAYLOR "balefully funny, ruefully sad... UNIVERSAL APPEAL" D. Exp Mon-Sat 7.30 Mat Wed+Sat 2.30

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VICTORIA PALACE Box Off & cc (No bkg fee) 071 834 1317 CC (bkg fee)071-344 4444/240 7200 Groups 071 930 6123 BUDDY The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun BUDDY "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel BUDDY Mon-Thur 8.00 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sat 5.00 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF 4th SENSATIONAL YEAR OVER 1250 PERFORMANCES BOOKING THROUGH 1993

WHITEHALL BO/CC 867 1119 /1111 071 344 4444/497 9977 Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards BEST ENTERTAINMENT Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards John Wells William Gaunt Richard Kane "GILES HAVERGAL'S brilliant adaptation of GRAHAM GREENE'S funniest novel" Obs. TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT "BRILLIANT An evening to treasure" F.T Mon-Fri 8 Wed 3 Sat 5 & 8.15 Transf. from Wyndhams 16 Mar

WHITEHALL BO/CC 071 867 1119/867 1111 CC 344 4444 (no fee) 240 7200 (bkg fee) ENNIO MARCHETTO "Wonderfully wickedly funny" Obs Mon-Fri 8, Sat 6 & 9. Thu mat 4. Last Week - Must end 13 March

WYNDHAMS BO/CC 867 1116 /071 344 4444/071 497 9977 Nomination 1993 Olivier Award BEST NEW PLAY BEST ACTRESS JUDI DENCH Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards JUDI DENCH MICHAEL PENNINGTON The acclaimed RSC Production of "PETER SHAFFER'S brilliant new play" S. Times THE GIFT OF THE GORGON Directed by PETER HALL RED. PRICE PREVS FROM 18 MARCH OPENS 23 MARCH AT 7 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3

WYNDHAMS BO/CC 867 1116 /071 344 4444 cc 071 867 1111 Nomination 1993 Olivier Award BEST ENTERTAINMENT Nomination 1993 Olivier Awards John Wells William Gaunt Richard Kane "GILES HAVERGAL'S brilliant adaptation of GRAHAM GREENE'S funniest novel" Obs. TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT "BRILLIANT" An evening to treasure" FT Mon-Fri 8 Wed 3 Sat 5 & 8.15 Transfers to the Whitehall Theatre 16th March

YOUNG VIC 928 6363cc344 4444 Arthur Miller's The Last Yankee "Uniformly Splendid" D.Mail "Masterful Production" S.Tms Must end 17 April 8pm (mats 2.30) Fm 22/4 James Wilby-The Trial

THEATRES

ADELPHI Andrew Lloyd Webber's New Musical SUNSET BOULEVARD OPENS 29th JUNE Now bkg for performances from 1st July 24HR CREDIT CARD BKGS CALL 071 344 0055 (with bkg fee) GROUP BOOKING 071 413 3302 (with bkg fee) In view of extensive refurbishment work at the Adelphi Theatre a temporary box office facility is now available for personal callers at the Palace Theatre (Shaftesbury Ave, side) Open 10am-8pm Mon-Sat

ALBERY 071-867 1115/867 1111 cc 071 344 4444 (No Fee) Groups 930 6123/413 3321 MARIA AITKEN JOHN STANDING in NOEL COWARD'S HAY FEVER "ONE OF THE FINEST PRODUCTIONS OF THE YEAR... A COMIC MASTERPIECE" D Tel. Eves 8pm Thu & Sat mats 3pm

CALL 071-481 1920
To place your entertainment advert in THE TIMES

CINEMAS

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St. 071 465 8865 Gerard Depardieu in TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12) Progs at 1.10 (not Sun) 3.30, 6.00 & 8.25

CURZON WEST END Shaftes' Ave W1 071 439 4805 Jeremy Irons, Juliette Binoche in DAMAGE (18) A film by Louis Malle. Progs at 12.45, 3.20, 6.00 & 8.35

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. off Charing Cross Rd. 071 867 1044 HOWARDS END (PG) Progs at 2.30, 5.15 & 8.05 Nominated for 9 Oscar and 11 BAFTA Awards

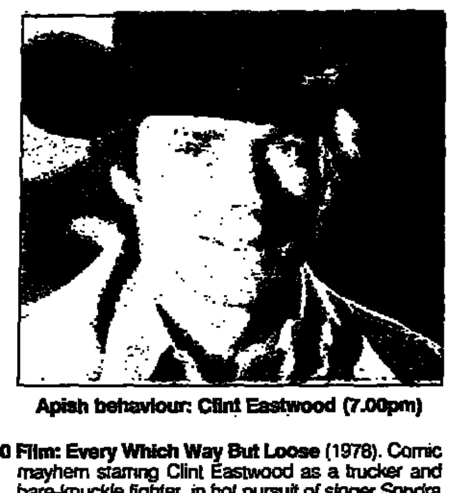
OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 836 3161 cc 240 5258 cc (24 hr) 240 7200 /344 4444 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Today 2.30 & 7.30 THE MIKADO Mon 7.30 DON PASQUALE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066/1911. Standby info 836 6903. S CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. THE ROYAL OPERA Tue 7.30 Tannhäuser Mon 8.00 La Damnation de Faust.

BBC1

7.25 News and weather (3437435)
7.30 Henry's Cat. Cartoon (r) (3051706) **7.35 Wiz Bang** (s) (3757086) **7.50** *Litt' Bits. Cartoon about pixies in an enchanted forest* (r) (8946597) **8.10 Eggs 'n' Baker** Cheryl Baker's guest is Dave Benson Phillips, presenter of *Playdays* (5835684) **8.35 Tom and Jerry.** Cat and mouse triple cartoon bill (4917416)
9.00 Going Live! presented by Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield. Including cartoon fun, the winning video in the Red Nose Pop Relief competition, and Emma Freud checking out hamburgers (s) (29462348) ***12.12 Weather*** *(7131936)*
12.15 Grandstand introduced by Steve Rider. The line-up is (subject to alteration): **12.20** Football Focus: Bob Wilson and Alan Hansen review the midweek Premier League matches and last weekend's FA *Cup quarter-finals, and preview this afternoon's* games; **12.50, 1.25, 1.55** Racing from Chepstow: Berkeley Hurdle (1.00); Lifetime UK Novices' Chase Handicap (1.30); Beaufort Hurdle (2.00); **1.00** News; **1.15, 1.40** Athletics: the IAAF world indoor championship from Toronto; **2.10** and **3.10** Rugby League: live coverage of the first semi-final of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup; **3.00** Motor Racing: Steve *Rider previews the Formula One Grand Prix season;* **3.50** Football half-times: **4.00** Figure Skating: coverage of the ladies' free programme in the world championship from Prague; **4.40** Final Score (82611435). Northern Ireland: 4.55 Northern Ireland Results (3913597)
5.15 News with Moira Stuart. Weather (2620936)
5.25 Regional News and sport (1558771)
5.30 That's Showbusiness. *Mike Smith* hosts the celebrity panel game. This week's contestants are Nick Owen, Jonathon Morris, Jan Ravens and Catherine Cusack. *(Ceefax) (s) (374)*
6.00 Noel's House Party. Eddie Large is the recipient of the last "Gotcha Oscar" in the series (s) (42961)



Apish behaviour: Clint Eastwood (7.00pm)

7.00 Film: Every Which Way But Loose (1978). Comic mayhem starring Clint Eastwood as a trucker and bare-knuckle fighter, in hot pursuit of singer Sondra Locke, with an orang-utan called Clyde in tow. Directed by James Fargo. (Ceefax) (s) (95141023)
8.50 Birds of a Feather: Sweet Smell of Success. Prison widows Sharon and Tracey struggle to make *ends meet. Starring Pauline Quirke and Linda* Robson (r). (Ceefax) (242435)
9.20 News and sport with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Weather (545435)
9.40 That's Life! Esther Rantzen and team champion the rights of the consumer. (Ceefax) (s) (290771)
10.20 Match of the Day. Desmond Lynam introduces highlights from two of this afternoon's Premier *League matches. Commentary by John Motson and* Clive Tydesley (273619)
11.20 Film: The Devil's Brigade (1968). Routine war drama starring William Holden as an officer assigned to train a group of misfits into a disciplined fighting force. With Cliff Robertson. Directed by Andrew V. McLaglen (84572023). Wales: That's Showbusiness; 11.50 Film: The Devil's Brigade; *2.00am Weather* ***1.30am Weather*** *(3851172)*

BBC2

6.40 Open University: Managing in Organisations (4333023) **7.05** Maths — Tutor-Marked Assignments (3818023) **7.30** *Physics — A Macroscopic* Viewpoint (7917936) **7.55** Asian Families, Western Culture (8023690) **8.20** Biology — Organelles and Origins (5822110) **8.45** Poetry — Language and History (4831042) **9.10** A Tropical Rainforest (3844706) ***9.35 Magnetic Earth*** *(8273416)* **10.00** Engineering — Linkage Mechanisms (7382416) **10.25** The Rise of Scientific Europe — Copernicus and His World (7647597) **10.50** Psychology — Two Research Styles (7220868) **11.15** The Telephone — *Birth of a Technology (5772481)* **11.40** Developing World — The Poverty Complex (2407139) **12.05** Going to School in Japan (3973139) **12.30** Managing Schools: Democracy — Fact or Fiction? (9401394) **12.55** Women's Studies —Counting the Threads (1220329) **1.20** Information Technology — From DP to IT/A Link in the Chain (8787969) **2.10** Environment — Rainforest Futures (2305077)
3.00 Film: Singin' in the Rain (1952). *(Ceefax) See* Choice (55535685)
4.40 Figure Skating. Alan Weeks and Barry Davies provide commentary on the free dance in the world championship from Prague (3559955)
5.40 Late Again. *Highlights from last week's The Late Show.* Presented by Tracey Macleod (s) (735226)
6.30 Scrutiny. The work of the parliamentary select committees (Ceefax) (329)
7.00 News and sport with Moira Stuart. Weather (123416)
7.15 Sounds of the Seventies. Featuring The Eagles, Hall and Oates, Eric Clapton, Lynyrd Skynyrd and Dire Straits (704416)



Shoot-out: Robert Redford narrates (7.50pm)

7.50 Fine Cut: Incident at Oglala. See Choice (404477)
9.20 Moving Pictures. The last programme in the cinema series. There is a profile of the British director Beeban Kidron; an interview with Victor *Erice, whose film The Spirit of the Beehive follows* this programme; and John Wood talks about moving from Hong Kong to Hollywood (258394)
10.10 ***Film: The Spirit of the Beehive*** *(1973). Victor* Erice's directorial debut is a haunting story of a girl (Ana Torrent), living in Castille in the 1940s. She befriends a fugitive, believing him to be the monster in the film *Frankenstein* (895810)
11.45 Film: The Moderns (1988). Director Alan Rudolph's romantic evocation of Americans living on the Left Bank in 1920s Paris. Struggling actor *Keith Carradine falls back in love with his former wife* Linda Fiorentino (s) (75190771). Ends at **1.55am**

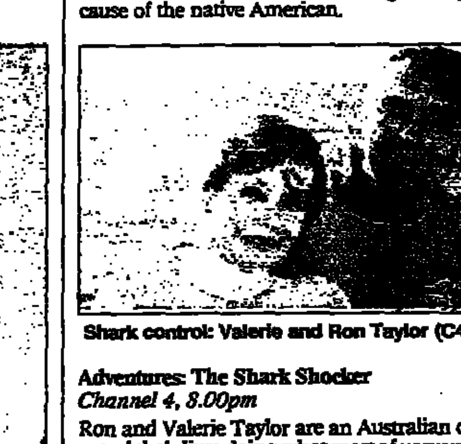
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Singin' in the Rain
BBC2, 3.00pm

This is one of the handful of films which can be confidently recommended to people who think they *know every frame.* In other words it never stales. *Singin' in the Rain* was part of the glorious flowering of the MGM musical when Gene Kelly was the king of dance and Hollywood was not afraid to entertain. The film tends to be remembered for its set pieces, notably *Kelly dancing the title number, the whirlwind Donald* O'Connor in "Make Em Laugh" and Cyd Charisse's ballet sequence. But unlike many musicals this one has a worthwhile plot, a funny but sharp-edged satire on the coming of the talkies in which Jean Hagen shines as a dumb blonde with a grating voice. Kelly co-directed with Stanley Donen.

Fine Cut: *Incident at Oglala*
BBC2, 7.50pm

In June 1975 two FBI agents followed a pick-up truck to an Indian reservation in South Dakota. They were looking for a young man wanted for the theft of a pair of cowboy boots. Shooting broke out and the agents were killed. There followed a huge FBI investigation *and four men were indicted.* This impressively detailed reconstruction of the events by the cinema director, Michael Apted, does not try to excuse the crime. But it *does explain the deprivation and fear which lay behind* it and alleges that in their determination to secure convictions the FBI officers intimidated witnesses and concocted evidence. The film's producer and narrator is Robert Redford, who has long championed the cause of the native American.



Shark control: Valerie and Ron Taylor (C4, 8.00pm)

Adventures: The Shark Shocker
Channel 4, 8.00pm

Ron and Valerie Taylor are an Australian couple who spend their lives doing what most of us would go miles to avoid. They descend into the oceans and photograph sharks. They have been at it for 30 years. *Valerie has been bitten three times but refuses to give* up. The Taylors are also fervent conservationists and much of the film is devoted to their experiments with "the shark shocker", an electronic barrier developed in South Africa. It is designed to control sharks in a humane way and is harmless to other sea creatures such as dolphins and turtles. The idea is to save sharks from being hunted and killed while protecting unwary *bathers from the sort of thing that happened in Jaws.* It is an absorbing film with superb underwater footage.

The Shop Around the Corner
Channel 4, 1.00pm

James Stewart and Margaret Sullavan made four films together but were never more effective than in this bittersweet tale of romantic misunderstandings. Stewart plays a shop assistant in pre-war Budapest, who is carrying on an affectionate correspondence with a girl he has never met. She turns out to be the shop's latest recruit (Sullavan), though neither knows this. Meanwhile the shop manager (Frank Morgan) *hears that an assistant is having an affair with his wife* and accuses Stewart. Based on a stage play, *The Shop Around the Corner* is no more than an engaging trifle but it is carried by excellent performances and the famous wit and style of its central European director, Ernst Lubitsh. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV beginning with *Rise and Shine*, and at **7.45** *Saturday Disney* (8983874)
9.25 What's Up Doc? Andy Crane, Pat Sharp and Yvette Fielding present music and cartoons, and Kazako demonstrates Japanese cooking (57291868)
11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The latest *rock* videos, including Hue and Cry performing their 1987 hit "Labour of Love" in the *Video Vault* (r) (s) (12874)
12.30 Speakeasy. Emma Freud, with Dr Mark Salter, presents the magazine programme in which *teenagers discuss their problems. Jason, from Take* That, reveals his teenage sexual fantasy (56110)
1.00 ITN News with Dermot Murnaghan. Weather (87056110) **1.05 London Today** (87055481)
1.10 European Champions League. Ian St John and *Jimmy Greaves preview next Wednesday's match* at Ibrox Park between Rangers and FC Bruges. Also, a report on AC Milan, the Italian league favourites, and a preview of tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup semi-final between Sheffield Wednesday and Blackburn Rovers (11063226)
1.40 Movies, Movies, Movies. Includes reviews of *Toys, Housesitter* and *Bingo* (35885868)
2.10 WCW Worldwide Wrestling (60266503)
2.40 Schoolboy Soccer: England v Scotland. Live coverage from Wembley Stadium (14934732)
4.40 ITN News with Dermot Murnaghan. Sports results and weather (3903110)
5.00 London Tonight *and sport. Weather (2723077)*
5.10 New Baywatch: A Matter of Life and Death. Drama with the Los Angeles county lifeguards. Starring David Hasselhoff. (Teletext) (s) (9016110)
6.00 Blind Date with Cilla Black. (Teletext) (s) (44329)

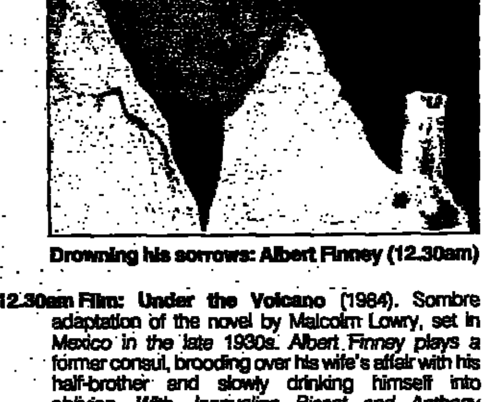


Hop Scotch: Barrymore, Lizzy, Dizzy (7.00pm)

7.00 Barrymore. Michael Barrymore introduces more *unsung talent. Among tonight's budding stars are* Dizzy and Lizzy from Scotland who perform songs from their music-hall repertoire (726023)
7.45 Film: The Great Escape II — The Untold Story (1988). Belated and inferior sequel to the 1963 hit stars Christopher Reeve as a British officer who, with two other prison camp survivors, sets out to find the Nazi responsible for the slaughter of 50 *escapees. With Judd Hirsch and Donald Pleasence.* Directed by Paul Wendkos. (Teletext) (37154058)
10.15 Tarrant's Ten Years on TV. Chris Tarrant reviews the Japanese gameshow, *Endurance* (973936)
10.45 ITN News with Dermot Murnaghan. Weather (223459)
11.05 Film: Bullitt (1968). Fast-moving suspense thriller starring Steve McQueen as a maverick police *lieutenant assigned to protect a vital witness. The* streets of San Francisco provide the setting for the now legendary car chase. With Jacqueline Bisset. Directed by Britain's Peter Yates (11049969)
1.10am The Big E. European magazine (8517268)
2.10 Basketball. The American NBA league (5275269)
3.10 New Music. Including an interview with the Texas blues guitarist Johnny Winter and a feature on the *Scottish group, Teenage Fanclub (5754462)*
4.20 Rock Sport. Featuring the Italian powerboat racer Guido Cappellini (85617462)
4.30 BPM. Dance music (s) (7662714)
5.15 Night Shift. After closing in a restaurant (4409356)
5.30 ITN Morning News (59559). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. Animation (r) (s) (6172987) **6.25 Dennis.** *Cartoon* adventures with the mischievous boy (4942400) **6.35 Alfred J. Kwak.** Animation about a musical duck (4336110) **7.00 Mr Men.** Cartoon fun *(3338110)* **7.05 Kid 'n' Play** (r) (6663503) **7.35 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors** (r) *(7007503)* **8.00 Saved by the Bell.** Drama about six adventurous teenagers (33771) ***8.30 High 5.*** Rafting and hydro-sliding on the Zambezi River (32042) **9.00 News** *(9671690)* **9.15 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line** (8601868)
10.00 Trans World Sport. International sport (31706)
11.00 Gazzetta Football Italia. Paul Gascoigne previews the match between Lazio and AC Milan (48042)
12.00 Road Dreams. Elliott Bristow travels from New York to Los Angeles in the *penultimate* episode of his video diary charting a 12-year journey around the *United States (r) (s)* (16058)
12.30 Songs and Memories. The eccentric artist Iqbal Geoffrey talks about art and human rights, and chooses his favourite film *music* (54752)
1.00 Film: The Shop Around the Corner (1940, b/w). *See Choice* (11200085)
2.50 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown. Brough Scott introduces the line-up: Barclays Bank Handicap Hurdle (3.00); *Macmillan Nurse Appeal Handicap* Chase (3.35); Sunderlands Imperial Cup Handicap Hurdle (4.10); and Burnt Oak and Special Cargo Novices' Chase (4.40) (52278394)
5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition. (Teletext) (s) *(7461892)*
6.30 Right to Reply presented by Sheena McDonald. Includes James Ferman, director of the British Board of *Film Classification, on* violence in films and on television (Teletext) (s) (597)
7.00 A Week in Politics. Paddy Ashdown, MP, leader of the Liberal Democrats, on the *prospects for a* realignment of the Left (5752)
8.00 Adventures: The Shark Shocker. (Teletext) (s). See Choice (4400)
9.00 Porterhouse Blue. The second in a four-part *dramatisation* by Malcolm Bradbury of Tom Sharpe's comic novel. Ian Richardson stars as the master of a fictional Cambridge college with David Jason as the head porter (1936)
10.00 Saturday Zoo. Jonathan Ross hosts an hour of live entertainment. Includes *One Foot in the Grave*'s Richard Wilson and robotic comedian Zed (s) (4023)
11.00 Ready, Steady, Go! (b/w). Music from Gerry and the Pacemakers, Dusty Springfield, the Dave Clark Five, Stevie Wonder and the Beatles (s) (472868)
11.35 Adult Oprah. *Oprah Winfrey talks to a therapist* convicted of sexual misconduct (s) (835313)



Drowning his sorrows: Albert Finney (12.30am)

12.30am Film: Under the Volcano (1984). Sombre adaptation of the novel by Malcolm Lowry, set in *Mexico in the late 1930s. Albert Finney plays a* former consul, brooding over his wife's affair with his half-brother and slowly drinking himself into oblivion. With Jacqueline Bisset and Anthony Andrews. Directed by John Huston (58714849)
2.35 The Word *(r)* (s) (8108795). Ends at **3.35**

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am Danger Bay (62961) **6.30** Rin Tin Tin (30503) **7.00** *Fun Factory* (1320464) **12.00** WWF Superstars (93619) **1.00pm** Rich Man, Poor Man (22969) **2.00** The Addams Family (4955) **2.30** Facts of Life (3936) **3.00** Cartoons (91787) **4.00** Knights and Warriors (91874) **5.00** WWF Mania (7042) **6.00** Beverly Hills, 90210 (82503) **7.00** Class of '96 (36348) **8.00** *Unsolved Mysteries* (49868) **9.00** Cops I (42526) **9.30** Cops II (94348) **10.00** WWF Mania (35619) **11.00** Saturday *Night Live (83132)* **12.00** *Pages from Skytext*

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (60503) **6.30** News and Business Report (308226) **9.30** Nightline (78110) **10.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (30416) **11.30** Getaway (50058) **12.30pm** Fashion TV (34232) **1.30** The Reporters (35961) **2.30** Nightline (89955) **3.30** Those Were the Days (61874) **4.30** Getaway (4042) **5.00** Live at Five (57690) **6.30** Fashion TV (60874) **7.30** The Reporters (5771) **9.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (51787) **10.30** The Reporters (88619) **11.30** *Fashion TV (41690)* ***12.30am Getaway*** (95085) **1.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (57608) **2.30** Fashion TV (87998) **3.30** Target (82443) **4.30** *Financial Times* West of Moscow (86608) **5.30-6.00** The Reporters (97733)

SKY MOVIES PLUS

6.00am Showcase (78431)
8.00 Lightning, The White Stallion *(1986)*: Equine adventures (40936)
10.00 The Witching of Ben Wagner *(1990). Children's drama (73400)*
12.00 White Fang (1991): Ethan Hawke befriends a wolf-dog (36787)
2.00pm Joe Dancer — The Big Black Pill (1981). Private eye Robert Blake faces a murder rap (46771)
4.00 An American Summer (1990): A teenager visits his aunt in California (5874)
6.00 Lies Before Kisses (1991): Jaclyn Smith's husband is suspected of *murdering a call-girl* (39435)
8.00 Return to the Blue Lagoon (1991): Milla Jovovich and Brian Krause star as the *beautiful castaways* (38752)
10.00 Nico (1988): Steven Seagal investigates government corruption (304139)
11.40 Novel Desires: Adult drama (400684)
1.05am Kid (1990): C. Thomas Howell avenges the murder of his parents (2220375)
2.35 Lisa (1989): Staci Keenan accidentally rings a serial killer (6955153)
4.05 Ghosts Can't Do It (1990): Bo Derek is haunted by the spirit of Anthony Quinn *(7484733). Ends at 5.30*

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Harper Valley PTA *(1978)*: Barbara Eden as a radical housewife (6856)
6.00 A Farewell to Arms (1957): Hemingway's first world war romantic drama starring Rock Hudson and Jennifer Jones (174936)
8.30 The Ritz (1976): Jack Weston hides out in a gay bath-house (52459)
10.00 The Amityville Horror (1979): James Brolin and Margot Kidder buy a house that is possessed (96226) Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Town on Trial (1957): Scotland *Yard investigates a murder (8247313)*
7.50 Tales of Hoffman (1951). Offenbach's fantasy opera about a poet (70340110)
10.00 The Uninvited (1944, b/w): Ray Milland and Ruth Hussey rent a haunted clifftop house in Cornwall (53115110)
11.50 Down Three Dark Streets (1954, b/w) FBI agent Broderick Crawford has to solve three cases (45108706)
1.25pm Which Way Home (1991): Cybill *Shepherd attempts to smuggle orphans out* of Cambodia (64896844)
4.00 Chance of a Lifetime (1990). Widow Betty White discovers that she is dying and embarks on her last holiday (3416)
6.00 Star Trek — The Next Generation: Unification (1991): Captain Picard visits Spock on the planet *Romulus* (37077)
8.00 Dances with Wolves (1990): Kevin Costner's western about a soldier who befriends Sioux Indians (130752)
11.00 Revealing Evidence (1990): Tom Selleck pursues a serial killer (324042)
12.35am Curiosity Kills (1990). C. Thomas Howell's neighbour is found dead (5400356)
2.05 Columbo: No Time to Die (1991). Starring Peter Falk (671066)
3.45 *The Bingo Long Travelling All-Stars* and Motor Kings (1976): Comedy about a baseball team (936375) Ends at **5.35**

SKY SPORTS

6.30am The Big League (391706) **9.00** US Women's Open Golf (17481) **10.00** The Boot Room (15752) **11.00** Sky Soccer Weekend (73936) **12.00** Fishing the West (18329) ***12.30pm*** *Gillette World Sports (66077)* ***1.00*** Sports Saturday (4927874) **6.00** Goal — The Fifa Quiz (7936) **6.30** Trucks 'n' Tractor *Power (4416)* ***7.00*** *Bull Riders (61058)* **8.00** Cod Fishing (70706) **9.00** US PGA Golf: Honda Classic from Fort Lauderdale, Florida (77865) **11.00** Muscle Night (16481) **12.00-2.00am** Ringside (22004)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Motorsport (34139) **8.30** Ford Ski Report (64684) **9.30** Alpine Skiing () **11.00** Motor Racing (20684) **12.00** Alpine Skiing (57752) **1.00pm** Figure Skating (804665) **3.30** Nordic Skiing (25042) **4.30** Free Style Skiing (1139) **5.00** Alpine Skiing (1400) **6.00** *Athletics (857874)* ***9.00*** *Handball (72110)* **10.00** Golf: Des Baleares Open (82597) **11.00** Motor Racing (14077) **12.00-2.15am** Athletics (43141559)

UK GOLD

6.00am *Rainbow* (52150955) **8.15** Button Moon (52148110) **8.30** Michael Bentine's Potty Time (8032416) **7.00** Hot Dog (2383313) **7.30** Owl TV (2471348) **8.00** Lassie (1022058) **8.30** Rentaghost (1087323) **9.00** The Raccoons (1938481) **9.30** Bucky O'Hare (6116355) **10.00** Jem *(8950868)* ***10.30*** *Dungeons and Dragons* (1994665) **11.00** Film: The Road to Denver (1955) starring John Payne and Lee J Cobb (28203684) **12.45pm** Film: Oh, Mr Porter! (1937, b/w) starring Will Hay (3183355) **2.15** Bless This House (9879665) **2.45** EastEnders (2130740) **5.30** Swallows and Amazons Forever! (5609961) **6.00** Campion (6291690) **7.00** Bless This House (2313787) **7.30** Till Death Us Do Part (5513110) **8.00** *Bergerac (2694139)* ***9.00*** *The Lotus Eaters* (2770503) **10.00** Film: Carry On Abroad (6861435) **11.45** Frankie Howerd, Then Churchill Said to Me (7775151) **12.15am** Filthy, Rich and Catflap (5833511) **1.00-2.15** In Concert: Duran Duran (55659682)

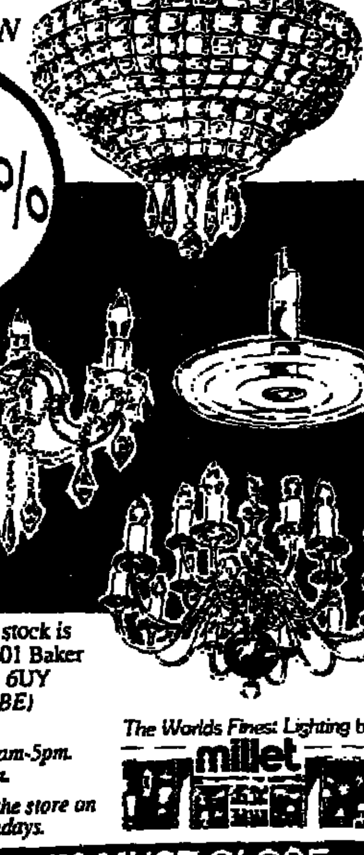
THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Stories Without Words (44523) **6.30** Cartoon Classics (61706) **7.00** The Best of *Jack in the Box (23416)* ***7.30*** *David the* Gnome (39023) **8.00** Storybreak (73226) **8.30** Barnyard Commandos (72597) **9.00** Gravedale High (57023) **10.00** The Smoggies (31435) **11.00** Bravestarr (21011) **12.00** Cartoon Classics (3127087) **12.55pm** Interbang (3382503) **1.20** Pugwall (9308333) **2.15** Widdacott (433345) **2.45** Wonder Why? (3252597) **3.10** Under the Mountain (9424135) **3.35** Round the Twist (4355961) **4.05** The Guys Next Door (5175077) **4.30** Shadows (3315) **5.00** Just Us (4136) **5.30** Fifteen (5315) **6.00-7.00** Fame (97348)

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VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.40** Cartoon Time (86763313) **1.50-2.40** Wrestling (2179961) **5.00-5.10** Anglia News (2723077) **1.10** Hollywood Report (3524284) **1.40** The Twilight Zone (2715581) **2.30** BPM (26040) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (12085) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (62004)

BORDER

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.10-2.40** Granada Sport (7537961) **5.00-5.10** Border News (2723077) **1.10** Hollywood Report (3524284) **1.40** The Twilight Zone (2715581) **2.30** BPM *(26040)* ***3.30*** *The Little Picture Show (12085)* **4.30-5.30** The Big E (62004)

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.40** Wrestling (8082481) **2.25-2.40** Rocksport (23942771) ***5.00*** *Central News (1540752)* ***5.05-5.10*** *The* Central Match — Goals Extra (1549023) **1.10** Film: 12 Plus 1 (Vittorio Gassman, Sharon Tate, Orson Welles) (797882) **2.55** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (9431627) **3.25** America's Top Ten (30007694) **3.55** Profile of disco band Earth, Wind and Fire (40529998) **4.05** Jobfinder (3195085) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2945337)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, *Movies, Movies (56110)* ***1.10-2.40*** *Granada* Sport Kick Off (4082351) **5.00-5.10** Granada News (2723077) **1.15** Hollywood Report (45133) **1.45** The Twilight Zone (3165022) **2.35** BPM (8100153) **3.35** The Little Picture Show (2198240) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (62004)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, *Movies, Movies (56110)* ***1.40*** *Davy Crockett* (2082481) **2.30-2.40** Cartoon Time (9684459) **5.00-5.10** HTV West News and Sport (2723077) **1.10** *Hollywood Report* (3524284) **1.40** The Twilight Zone: Her Pilgrim Soul (2715581) **2.30** BPM (26040) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (12085) **4.30-5.30** The Big E (62004)

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 5.00-5.10 HTV Wales News and Sport

MERIDIAN

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.40** Wrestling (8082481) **2.25-2.40** Rock Sport (23942771) **5.00** Meridian News (1540752) **5.05-5.10** Saturday Sport (1549023) **2.10** Film: Stunts Unlimited (8581207) **3.30** Basketball (12085) **4.30** America's Top Ten (71820) **5.00-5.30** Wrestling (51578)

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, *Movies, Movies (56110)* ***1.40*** *Speaking Our* Language (35885868) **2.10-2.40** Celebrity Squares (60266503) **5.00** Scotsport Results (5809400) **5.15** Rock Sport (2639684) **5.30** The Box (318503) **5.45-6.00** Scotland Today (689961) **1.10** Film: The Psychopath (983153) **2.45** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (98066) **3.15** BPM (8168356) **4.10** The Beat (7336820) **5.05-5.30** Jobfinder (7252191)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.40** The A-Team *(2082481)* ***2.30-2.40*** *Porky Pig (9864459)* **5.00-5.10** Tyne Tees Saturday (2723077) **1.10** Coach (1822998) **1.40** The Law and Harry McGraw (2715581) **2.30** BPM (26040) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (12085)

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.40-2.40** Wrestling (1039961) **5.00** UTV Live (1540752) ***5.05-5.10*** *Saturday Sport (1549023)* **1.10** Hollywood Report (3524284) **1.40** The Twilight Zone (2715581) **2.30** BPM (26040)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Anybody Out There (56110) **2.10-2.40** The Munsters Today (60266503) **5.00-5.10** Westcountry Weekend Latest (2723077) **1.10** Hollywood Report (3524284) **1.40** The Twilight Zone (2715581) **2.30** BPM (26040) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (12085) **4.30-5.30** The Big E

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Movies, Movies, Movies (56110) **1.40** The A-Team (2082481) **2.30-2.40** Porky Pig (9864459) **5.00-5.10** Calendar News (2723077) **1.10** Coach (362484) **1.40** The Law and Harry McGraw (2715581) **2.30** BPM (26040) **3.30** The Little Picture Show (12085) **4.30-5.30** Cue the Music (62004)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 Mr Men (3338110) **7.05** Kids 'n' Play (6663503) **7.35** *Jayce and the Wheeled* Warriors (7007503) **8.00** Saved by the Bell (33771) **8.30** High 5 (32042) **9.00** News (9671690) **9.15** Racing: The Morning Line (8601868) **10.00** Trans World Sport (31706) **11.00** Gazzetta Football Italia — With Paul Gascoigne (48042) **12.00** The Wonder Years (16058) **12.30** The Angler and the Trout (54752) **1.00** Film: The Shop Around the Corner (11200085) **2.50** Channel 4 Racing *(52278394)* ***5.05*** *Brookside (7461892)* **6.30** Magic Roundabout (876481) **6.35** Now You're Talking (467077) **7.00** News (768023) **7.20** Traed Oer (142986) **7.50** *I Dr Drygioni* (233619) **8.40** Tocyn Tymor (265023) **9.30** Benny Hill (47416) **10.00** Saturday Zoo (4023) **11.00** Ready Steady Go! (472868) **11.35** Adult Oprah (917961) **12.25** Whose Line Is It Anyway? (2349004) **12.55** Close

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Neale James (FM only until **6.00am**) **7.00** Gary Davies **10.00** Dave Lee Travis **1.00pm** Adrian Juste **2.00** The Record Producers: Bob Clearmountain **3.00** Johnnie Walker **6.00** The Saturday Rock Show with Alan Freeman **8.30** The Knowledge: Secrets of the music industry **9.00** Andy Kershaw *11.00 John Peel (FM only from 12.00)* **2.00-4.00am** Lynn Parsons (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Bill Rennells **6.00** Barbara Sturgeon **8.05** Brian Matthew: Sounds of the Sixties **10.00** Sarah Kennedy **12.00** Brian Hayes on Saturday **1.30pm** For Better or for Worse (r) **2.00** Ronnie Hilton: Sounds of the Fifties **3.00** Steve Race **4.00** Wind for Sound: The Cliff Richard Story (r) **5.00** Cinema 2 **5.30** *Nick Barraclough's New Country* **6.00** Barbara Dickson in Concert **7.00** *I've Heard That Song Before* **7.30** Nessun Dorma. A Grand Italian Opera Gala. Performed by the BBC Concert Orchestra under James Lockhart **9.30** David Jacobs presents Easy Does It **10.00** Radio 2 Arts Programme **12.05am** Ronnie Hilton (r) **1.00-4.00** Charles Nove with Night Ride

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **Noon. 4.25am** Test Match Special: Sri Lanka v England from Colombo **6.30** Weekend Edition Update **7.10** Test Match Special: Sri Lanka v England **12.00** Sport on 4 Plus 1 (as Radio 4 at 9.05am) **12.30pm** Sportscall **1.30** Sport on Five, Football: Premier League, Rugby Union, Bath v Wasps, Neath v Cardiff; Racing from Sandown **5.00** Sports Report **6.05** Six-O-Six **7.30** Afropop Worldwide **8.30** Le Top **9.30** Nightbeat **10.00** Sports Sunset **10.15** On the Level **12.00-12.10am** News, Sport **4.25-6.30** Test Match Special: Sri Lanka v England

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT. 4.30am** World Business Report **4.40** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **5.59** Weather **6.00** World and British News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** People and Politics **8.00** World News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** A Jolly Good Show **9.00** World News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Worldbrief **9.30** Personal View **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Jazz Now and Then **10.15** Letter from America **10.30** Waveguide **10.40** Book Choice **10.45** From the Weeklies **11.00** Newsdesk **11.29** Travel News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** World News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 3 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** Club 648 **2.15** Personal View **2.30** Sportsworld **3.00** World News **3.15** Sportsworld **4.00** World News **4.10** News About Britain **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News Headlines in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** World News **8.10** *Personal View* **8.25** *Words of Faith* **8.30** *Europe This Weekend* **8.55** *European Sports News* **9.00** Newshour **10.00** World News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** World News **11.05** Words of Faith **11.10** Book Choice **11.15** A Jolly Good Show **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** The Ken Bruce Show **1.00** News **1.01** Play of the Week: The Hole in the Top of the World **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Gods, Guides And Gurus **3.00** World News **3.10** News About Britain **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** From Our Own Correspondent **3.50** Write On **4.00** World News **4.15** India's Children of Courage

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Sarah Lucas **9.00** Classic CD Countdown with Paul Gambaccini **12.00** Petroc Trelawny **3.00pm** Adrian Love **6.00** Classic America **7.00** Opera: *Academy of Ancient Music performs Mozart's Die Entführung aus dem Serail* **10.00** Classic Quiz with Quentin Howard **12.00-6.00am** Andre Leon

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Renaissance Music
6.55 Weather
7.00 Record Review, with Paul Gunnery Foerster (Wind Quintet in F, Op 95: *Fodor* Quintet); Ravel (Alborada del gracioso; La vallée des *cloches, Mirors: Anne* Queffélec, piano); Haydn (String Quartet *in* B minor, Op 33 No 1: *Maggini Quartet*); **8.03** English *national* songs from Saydisc's new album; Tchaikovsky (Suite No 3 *in* G: USSR Ministry of Culture Orchestra under Rozhdestvensky) **9.00 News**
9.05 Record Review, continues with Anthony Burton. **Building a Library**: Includes reviews of Tippett (A Child of Our Time); chamber music by William Lawes and Rameau; and Gerard Schwarz's recording for Delos of the complete symphonies of Howard Hanson. ***10.35 Record Release***: Rameau (Concert No 4 in B flat, Pièces de clavecin en concerts: Ryo Terakado, violin, Kaori Uemura, viola da gamba, *Christophe Rousset*, harpsichord), Hanson (Symphony No 3: Seattle Symphony under Gerard Schwarz); Lawes (Sett No 8 in D for two violins, bass viol and organ: London Baroque); **11.33** Rodney Milnes reviews opera reissues; Beethoven (Fidelio — excerpt)
1.00pm News 1.05 Peter Serkin Plays Bach: Partita No 6 in E minor, BWV 830; Goldberg Variations, BWV 988, including at 1.45 Interval Reading
2.45 Tailleferre: Piano Trio (Clement Trio Cologne)
3.00 The Koussevitzky Legacy: See Choice. Martinů (Symphony No 1: Czech PO under Belohlavek); Barber (Prayers of Kierkegaard: Chicago SO under Andrew Schenck); Britten (Passacaglia; Dawn; Sunday Morning, Peter Grimes: Boston SO under Koussevitzky, Peter Grimes, Act 3, sc 2: Royal Opera House Chorus and Orchestra under Reginald Goodall; Four Sea Interludes, Peter Grimes: New York PO under Bernstein)
5.00 Jazz Record Requests, with Geoffrey Smith
5.45 Third Opinion: Christopher Cook and guests discuss cultural studies
6.30 Alceste: Members of the Netherlands Radio Chorus; Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestra under Arnold Ostman perform Act 1 of Gluck's opera, to a libretto by *Roullet after Calzabigi*. Sung in French, in the revised version for the Paris Opera in 1776. *With Donald Litaker as Admète* and Gabriele Lechner as Alceste. **7.25** A reading from Gluck's preface to *Alceste*. **7.35** Acts 2 and 3
9.40 All Those Vile Bodies: Dr Valentine Cunningham, senior tutor in English literature at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, presents a documentary reappraisal of the novelist Aldous Huxley
10.10 Howells and Leighton: Margaret Fingerhut, piano, plays Howells (Three Pieces, Op 14; Slow Dance); Kenneth Leighton *(Four Romantic Pieces)* (r)
11.00 Don Pullen: The American *pianist, recorded in concert at* the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, last October. With *Hilliard Green*, bass, and Cindy Black, drums
12.30-12.35am News

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News, incl Weather **6.10** The Farming Week **6.50** Prayer for the Day **6.55** Weather **7.00** Today, incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.20** Listeners' Letters **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **7.55** Weather **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Sport on 4
9.30 Breakaway visits the Faroe Islands
10.00 News; Loose Ends, with Ned *Sherrin and guests*
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster, with Andrew Marr **11.30 Europhile**
12.00 Money Box, with Alison Mitchell
12.25pm The News Quiz chaired by Barry Took **12.55** Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions? Among Jonathan Dimbleby's guests in Wymondham, Norfolk, are Baroness Blackstone, master of Birkbeck College, London; Graham Mather, president of the European Policy Forum; and Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union (r) *1.55 Shipping Forecast*
2.00 News; Any Answers? 071-580 4444 from 12.30pm
2.30 Playhouse: Are Friends Electric, by Lesley Davies. A moving story, based on fact, tracing the last few weeks in *the life of 15-year-old cystic* fibrosis sufferer Ben Thurling. With Richard Pearce, Jennie Linden and John Rowe *(r)*
4.00 News; Age to Age charts the history of a 19th-century private asylum for the mentally ill; looks at sexually transmitted diseases 100 years ago; and traces the changing attitude towards tobacco
4.30 Science Now, with Peter Evans
5.00 Costing the Earth asks: is being green and mean the way to find riches?
5.25 Fourth Column, with Simon Hoggart **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 News and Sports Round-Up
6.25 Week Ending (r)
6.50 On the Ropes: John *Humphrys talks to Neil* Kinnock, MP (r)
7.20 Kaleidoscope: An Earwig Flew into *My Mouth Once*. Roddy Doyle, author of *The Commitments, The Snapper* and *The Van, talks about* creating a new fictional Dublin, and returning to his 1960s childhood *in his new book, Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*
7.50 Saturday Night Theatre: Walpamur and Plywood. See Choice
9.20 Music In Mind: Favourite melodies with Brian Kay
9.50 Ten to Ten 9.59 Weather
10.10 News
10.15 The Open Mind: Sarah Baxter, Henry Porter and guests discuss whether *democracy could prove a false* hope for emerging nations
10.45 Eva and Adamson Again: More stories from an unlikely marriage, written and read by Leonard Barras
11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes with the horn player Anthony Halstead, and John Webb who makes brass instruments (r)
11.30 Les and Robert: Goodbye, Cruel Lancing. The first of a four-part comedy series. En route to Dehli, Les and Robert are left stranded and penniless in a Kent village. Written and performed by Robin Driscoll and Tony Haase
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

The Koussevitsky Legacy. *Radio 3, 3.00pm*

Britten's *Peter Grimes* features strongly in Humphrey Burton's programme about the classical music giant. And so it should. *Koussevitsky was Peter Grimes's godfather. He commissioned* it after conducting a 1942 performance in Boston of Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem* which he regarded as an essentially dramatic work. Why not take the logical next step, he suggested to Britten, and write an opera? Britten dedicated *Peter Grimes* to the memory of Kousssevitsky's wife. The rest, as they say, is history.

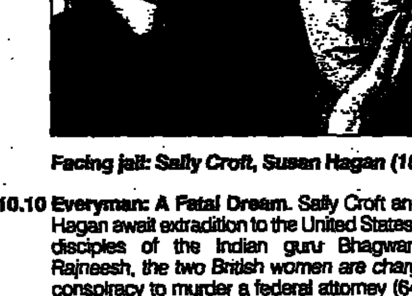
Saturday Night Theatre: Walpamur and Plywood. *Radio 4, 7.50pm*

Alex Ferguson's play is about the pitmen painters of Ashington in 1934 Northumberland. Corin Redgrave, with echoes of his famous father in his voice, plays Robert Lyon who helped the *miners develop* their unsuspected gifts and, in the process, unwittingly paved the way for communist intellectuals to try to use them as pawns in a *propaganda game. The play is fact,* heavily embroidered with fancy. The script has some false notes as well as a fair number of genuine sociological insights. **Peter Davalle**

FREQUENCIES: RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC:** *1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3.* **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102.
COMPILED BY GILLIAN MAXEY AND PETER DEAR

BBC1

7.00 PC Pinkerton (r) (3312172) **7.05 Felix the Cat.** Feline fun (r) (5501207) **7.20 Opposites Attract.** Nature series (r) (s) (3323288) **7.30 Smoggies** (r) (7986066) **7.55 Playdays** (r) (8905240)
8.15 Breakfast with Frost. David Frost talks to the shadow Chancellor Gordon Brown. Including at **8.15** and **9.00 News** and weather (671707)
9.15 People on the Way. Linda Mary Evans visits the site of St Patrick's first abbey at Saul (s) (8678530)
10.00 See Hear! Clive Mason reports on the plight of deaf prisoners. *With signing and subtitles* (s) (29269)
10.30 Japanese Language and People (r) (46375). Wales: Computing for the Terrified
11.00 Computing for the Terrified. Drama-documentary series (s) (5849): Wales: See You Sunday
11.30 Making Time. Work and home life (s) (6578)
12.00 Advice Shop. Welfare rights magazine (r) (37627)
12.30 CountryFile *looks at fox-hunting* (9470424). Wales: Down to Earth **12.55 Weather** (29801627)
1.00 News (67038714) **1.05 On the Record** with Jonathan Dimbleby and John Cole (2330240)
2.00 EastEnders. Omnibus edition. (Ceefax) (s) (20998)
3.00 Columbo: The Most Crucial Game. Peter Falk stars as the dishevelled police detective. With Dean Stockwell and Valerie Harper (r). (Ceefax) (8911443)
4.10 Biteback. Sue Lawley invites viewers to air their comments on BBC1's popular sitcom, *One Foot in the Grave*. (Ceefax) (6560917)
4.50 A Song for Europe Preview 1993 presented by Terry Wogan (s) (6051375)
5.00 The Clothes Show. A report on the Italian collections for *autumn/winter '93 (s) (4471627)*
5.25 Antiques Roadshow from Pembroke in Wales. (Ceefax) (s) (7687153)
6.10 News with Chris Lowe. Weather (573608)
6.25 Village Praise. Pam Rhodes visits St Oswald's Church, Grasmere, in the Lake District (886397)
7.00 Last of the Summer Wine: That's Not Captain Zero. Foggy offers to help when the human cannonball's van breaks down. Starring Bill Owen, Peter Sallis and Brian Wilde (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9066)
7.30 Lovejoy: Irish Stew. Ian McShane stars as the dodgy antiques dealer. (Ceefax) (s) (335068)
8.25 A Year in Provence: Black Gold. The third episode in a 12-part dramatisation of Peter Mayle's autobiographical account of Provençal life. Starring John Thaw and Lindsay Duncan (912288)
8.55 One Foot in the Grave: Timeless Time. Victor is unable to sleep. Starring Richard Wilson and Annette Crosbie (r). (Ceefax) (s) (244424)
9.25 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Weather (817795)
9.40 Mastermind from the University of Strathclyde. With Magnus Magnusson. *The specialist subjects are* Slavonic languages since 1700, the Grand National, Dante and the City of Chester since Roman times (442530)

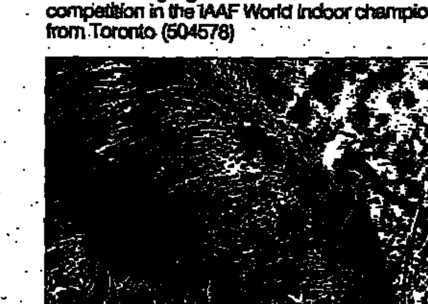


Facing jail: Sally Croft, Susan Hagan (10.10pm)

10.10 Everyman: A Fatal Dream. Sally Croft and Susan Hagan await extradition to the United States. Former disciples of the Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, *the two British women are charged with* conspiracy to murder a federal attorney (643085)
10.50 Winning. David Hall advises a security firm (r) (s) (773849)
11.20 The Seaside Trains. The last in the series recalls the Weston, *Clevedon and* Portishead Light Railway (r) (638443) **11.50 Weather** (290627)

BBC2

6.15 Open University: Film as Evidence — Poverty in the Thirties (7227676) **6.40** Pure Maths — Orthogonal Bases (4300795) **7.05** Geology — Britain Before Man (3885795) **7.30** Asian Families, Western Culture (2984608) **7.55** Technology — Eurekaargh! (Part 2) (8927462) **8.20** Shakespeare's *Henry IV in Rehearsal* (5899882) **8.45** Learning for All: Under the Walnut Tree (4808714)
9.10 Christopher Crocodile. Cartoon (r) (1149356) **9.15 The Animals of Farthing Wood.** Animation. (Ceefax) (s) (829627) **9.45 Time Busters.** Fantasy adventure game (6500004) **10.05 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles.** Cartoon (r). (Ceefax) (7285559) **10.30 Century Falls.** Drama series (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5234998) **10.55 Blue Peter Omnibus** (s) (8795530) *11.45 The O-Zone* (s) (2578288)
11.55 Sunday Grandstand. Steve Rider introduces action from the Formula One South African Grand Prix in Kyalami. Commentary by Murray Walker, James Hunt and Jonathan Palmer (88650530)
2.00 Regional Westminster Programmes (9820). Northern Ireland: Dull Sa Duirs; 2.15-2.30 Start Your *Own Religion; Wales: 2.00-2.30 Week in Week Out*
2.30 Sunday Grandstand. The line-up includes **2.35** *Athletics: the World Indoor championship in* Toronto; **3.25** Ice Skating: the world championship in Prague; **4.35** Skiing: the women's world cup downhill from Lillehammer; news of the South African Grand Prix (62788424)
5.10 Rugby Special. Bath v Wasps *(s)* (6700608)
6.10 Athletics. Highlights of the third and final day of competition in the IAAF World Indoor championship from Toronto (504578)



Little and large: Ibera swamp life (6.25pm)

6.25 The Natural World: Ibera — The Land of Shining Water. A film about a sub-tropical swamp in *Argentina which is inhabited by giant rodents,* alligators — and tourist guides. (Ceefax) (s) (192733)
7.15 The Money Programme. Rory Cellan-Jones reports on Britain's welfare state (103269)
7.55 Athletics. World Indoor championship (538207)
8.35 South African Grand Prix. Highlights (275646)
9.10 Did You See..? Jeremy Paxman, Rabbi Jonathan Romain, Josephine Hart and Teresa Gorman, MP, discuss BBC2's *Timewatch*, ITV's *A Statement of Affairs* and Channel 4's *Roots Schmoots* (s) (679462). Wales: (to 10.05) In Search of Schubert
9.40 Screen Two: Enchanted April. (Ceefax) (s). See Choice (319895). Wales: 10.05-11.45 Screen Two: Enchanted April
11.20 **The Dave Thomas Comedy Show** (995240)
11.45 Film: The Hired Hand (1971). Peter Fonda directs and stars in this offbeat western about a drifter who is hired to work by the wife he deserted seven years previously. With Warren Oates (879424). Wales: Did You See..?; 12.15am The Dave Thomas Show; 12.40-2.10 Film: The Hired Hand. Ends at **1.20am**

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Richardson, Lawrence and Walker (BBC2, 9.40pm)

Screen Two: Enchanted April
BBC2, 9.40pm

Much has happened to this 1920s tale of four women trying to rediscover themselves in a blissful Mediterranean setting since it was first shown a year ago. It has been been a hit in American cinemas, won awards for Miranda Richardson and Joan Plowright and been nominated for three Oscars. It is a slight *piece given substance by relishable performances* and sense of period. Richardson and Josie Lawrence play young housewives trapped in dull marriages who escape to an Italian castle. To help pay the rent they recruit a bossy widow (Plowright) and a spoiled aristocrat (Polly Walker). Peter Barnes's screenplay deftly captures the emotional inhibitions of the time *and there is assured direction from* Mike Newell.

The South Bank Show: Richard Price
ITV, 11.05pm

Richard Price is the American writer who rose to fame aged 24 with *The Wanderers*, a semi-autobiographical novel about street gangs in the Bronx. There followed three more books in similar vein, then a period of self-doubt and drug abuse before new celebrity as a Hollywood screenwriter (*The Color of Money*, *Sea of Love*). Given this CV, it is a lopsided profile which concentrates on the books and says nothing about the drugs and little about the films. Also the comprehensive coverage of Price's latest novel, *Clockers*, may smack more of a plug than a peg. But by *taking Price back to his New York roots, and then to* Jersey City, setting for the new book, the programme powerfully highlights the depth of inner-city poverty.

Fragile Earth: Ablaze in Provence
Channel 4, 7.00pm

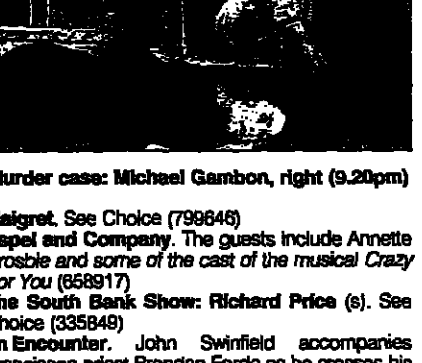
A sobering report from the south of France highlights the enormous damage inflicted by forest fires. In an *average year they destroy an area the size of* Yorkshire and in Provence alone there are 4,000 fires. The culprits are high summer temperatures, the Mistral wind and, in many cases, tourists. Some of the blazes, bizarrely, are started by the very firemen who are paid *to put them out*. The fire fighting can be spectacular as aircraft swoop over the Mediterranean to pick up water which is then unleashed on the flames. But conservationists say that more money and effort is spent on tackling fires than preventing them. The *answer may be to put people back into the forests,* or even to let sheep and goats loose on the undergrowth.

Maigret
ITV, 9.20pm

Michael Gambon is back as Simenon's pipesucking detective, solving the murder of a stripper in Montmartre. Gambon is excellent casting. He has a ressuringly solid presence and there is a kindness under that gruff exterior. He even manages a touch of humour, not a feature of Simenon's writing but a welcome bonus. The only quibble is that the decision, for economic reasons, to shoot the series in Budapest robs the stories of the Parisian atmosphere which comes across so strongly in the books. As it happens, this matters little in tonight's episode which is set largely indoors. In any case the essence of Simenon is the quality of characterisation. **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (112207)
8.30 Disney Club. The circus troupe Ra Ra Zoo performs acrobatics (90982433)
10.45 Link: Compensation. A report on Britain's *compensation laws for people who* become disabled. (Teletext) (2279066)
11.00 A Meditation. Nic Frances gave up a career in the City to train as a priest and Joy Riordan is a nurse in Cambodia, Somalia and Beirut. (Teletext) (73578)
12.00 This Sunday. Paul Heiney and Jenni Murray present topical and entertaining stories with a religious theme. (Teletext) (22795)
12.30 Crosstalk. Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary *of the public employees union*, discusses Tuesday's Budget with Peter Allen and MPs David *Mellor* and Tony Banks (s) (73917)
1.00 ITN News with Dermot Murnaghan. Weather (57392462)
1.10 Walden. Brian Walden asks shadow chancellor Gordon Brown if Labour can rescue the economy (s) (8387563)
2.00 The Smurfs. Cartoon adventures (r) (3646)
2.30 The Match: Sheffield Wednesday v Blackburn Rovers. Ian St John introduces live coverage from Hillsborough of the second leg of the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final. Commentary by Alan Parry, and expert analysis from Jack Charlton (740004)
NB: If extra time is played the following programmes are subject to alteration.
5.00 Wish You Were Here..? This week's holiday destinations include Vietnam and Torquay (r) (4998)
5.30 Survival: Land of the West Wind. Doug Bertran's wildlife documentary on how nature is reclaiming the wetlands of the Sacramento Delta in California. Narrated by Martin Jarvis. (Teletext) (578)
6.00 London Tonight and weather (218269)
6.20 ITN News with Julia Somerville. Weather (100801)
6.30 Murder, She Wrote: The Tax Man Cometh. Angela Lansbury stars as the amateur sleuth. An old college friend of Jessica's is accused of misplacing $2 millions in tax payments. (Teletext) (s) (685153)
7.25 Watching: Engaging. Malcolm and Brenda's mother enjoy each other's company. Starring Paul Bown and Emma Wray. (Teletext) (275849)
7.55 The Darling Buds of May. David Jason and Pam Ferris star in the comedy drama series. Pop Larkin buys 200 pigs. (Teletext) (s) (734288)
8.55 ITN News with Julia Somerville. Weather (538375)

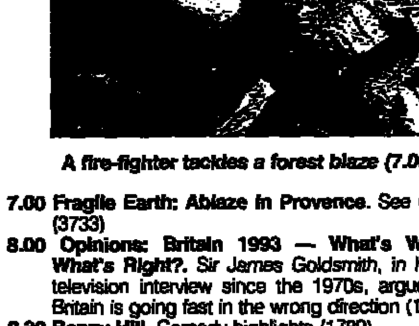


Murder case: Michael Gambon, right (9.20pm)

9.20 Maigret. See Choice (799646)
10.20 Aspel and Company. The guests include Annette *Crosbie and some of the cast of the musical Crazy For You* (658917)
11.05 The South Bank Show: Richard Price (s). See Choice (335849)
12.05am Encounter. John Swinfield accompanies *Franciscan priest Brendan Forde as he crosses his* mountainous parish in El Salvador (2395283)
12.35 Cue the Music. The Everly Brothers in concert at the Albert Hall (6122202)
1.40 TXT. Music and conversation (3790221)
2.40 Summerrock. *Katrina and the Waves in concert at* the Roskilde Festival (4768931)
3.35 Snooker. James Wattana plays John Parrott in the European League (778080)
5.30 ITN Morning News (36738). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Trans World Sport (r) (1544646) **6.55 Dennis.** Cartoon (r) (3189627) **7.05 The Wombles.** Tobermory puts on a show (r) (3304153) **7.10 Widget** (s) (3895172) **7.35 Sandokan.** Cartoon *about a pirate prince* (7982240) **8.05 Hammerman.** Animation (7441559) **8.30 Strangers.** First of a six-part adventure from *New Zealand* (s) (59849) **9.00 Tintin.** Cartoon adventures with Hergé's classic *hero* (33801) **9.30 Dennis** (r) (4559269)
9.45 Flipper: Deep Waters. Two submariners are trapped on the sea-bed (813066)
10.15 The Lone Ranger: Outlaw's Trail (b/w). Two gunmen ride into the town of Painted Post (838375)
10.45 Land of the Giants: Double-Cross. Vintage science-fiction (r) (621202)
11.45 Little House on the Prairie: The Creeper of Walnut Grove. Homespun family drama (6592172)
12.40 The Hidden Kingdom: A Himalayan Adventure. Film about a British mountaineering expedition to conquer the Himalayan peak of Gangkar Punsum in the ancient kingdom of Bhutan (r) (7410240)
1.45 Football Italia. Live coverage of Lazio v AC Milan *(89323240)*
4.00 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Making of a Sub-Culture. In the second in a three-part series, Randall Balmer explores the private life of American evangelists who reject theories of evolution and believe in the Apocalypse (2511)
5.00 Joshua and the Blob. Cartoon about the sudden *appearance of a shapeless companion* (2618191)
5.10 News and weather (1539646)
5.15 High Interest: Growth or Bust? Can Britain look forward to economic recovery or continued recession? Contrasting views are offered by Andrew Brittan, director of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, and Gavyn Davis, *chief economist at Goldman Sachs* (9099443)
6.00 Moviewatch. Young cinema-goers in Belfast review *Trespass, Crush, Candyman* and *Hoffa* (s) (733)
6.30 The Wonder Years: Let Nothing You Dismay. Nostalgic American comedy series starring Fred Savage. (Teletext) (135)



A fire-fighter tackles a forest blaze (7.00pm)

7.00 Fragile Earth: Ablaze in Provence. See Choice (3733)
8.00 Opinions: Britain 1993 — What's Wrong? What's Right?. *Sir James Goldsmith, in his first* television interview since the 1970s, argues that Britain is going fast in the wrong direction (1424)
8.30 Benny Hill. Comedy highlights (1789)
9.00 Lipstick on Your Collar. Episode four of Dennis *Potter's fifties musical drama.* Hopper (Ewan McGregor) dreams of Lisa (Kymberley Juffman), while Francis (Giles Thomas) has a date with Sylvia (Louise Germaine). (Teletext) (s) (2159511)
10.10 Film: The Krays (1990). Stylish, violent biography *of the notorious East End gangsters Ronnie and* Reggie Kray, who are played by the brothers Gary and Martin Kemp from the pop group Spandau Ballet. Billie Whitelaw is superb as the Krays' mother. Directed by Peter Medak (s) (22707240)
12.25am Film: Nahla (1979). An Algerian drama about a struggling nightclub singer in Beirut who becomes involved with a journalist on the eve of civil war. In Arabic with English subtitles. Directed by Farouk Beloufa (29431009). Ends at **2.35**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Food Guide (9498820) 2.00-2.30 Blondie and Dagwood (2646) 5.00 Survival (4998) 5.30 Bullseye (578) 6.00-6.20 Anglia News (218269) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) 1.05 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (6479955) 1.35 Film: Cold Blood (9162318) 3.05 *Entertainment UK* (7897905) 4.05 Cue the Music (7313979) 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten (21467)

BORDER
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Gardener's Diary (9498820) 2.00-2.30 Conference Report (3646) 5.00 Survival (4998) 5.30 Wish You Were Here..? (578) 6.00-6.20 The Border Week (595820) *12.35 Quiz Night* (6729863) 1.05 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (6479955) 1.35 Film: *Cold Blood* (9162318) 3.05 Entertainment UK (7897905) 4.05 Cue *the Music* (7313979) *5.00-5.30 America's* Top Ten (21467)

CENTRAL
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Gardening Time (9498820) 2.00-2.30 Coach (3646) 5.00 Survival (4998) 5.30 Highway to Heaven (625424) 6.15-6.20 Central News (196608) 12.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H (5138573) 1.30 Island Son (6652757) 2.25 Cue the Music (5231825) 3.25 ITV Chart Show (6119080) 4.20-5.20 Jobfinder

GRANADA
As London except: 12.25-1.00 What the MPs Say (3086207) 2.00-2.30 Granada Action (3646) 5.00 Cartoon Time (5876172) 5.15-6.20 Coronation Street (960733) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) 1.05 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (6479955) 1.35 Film: Cold Blood (9162318) 3.05 Entertainment UK (7897905) 4.05 Cue the Music (7313979) 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten (21467)

HTV WEST
As London except: 12.30-1.00 HTV Newsweek (73917) 2.00-2.30 The West Match — Highlights (3646) 5.00 Wrestling (9003646) 5.45-6.20 Survival (721646) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) 1.05 Cinema, Cinema (6479955) 1.35 Film: Cold Blood (9162318) 3.05 Entertainment UK (7897905) 4.05 Cue the Music (7313979) 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten (21467)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 12.30-1.00 Playback 2.00-2.30 Get Wet

MERIDIAN
As London except: 12.30 Meridian This Week (1101240) 12.50-1.00 Meridian News (35473998) 2.00-2.30 Stuntmasters (3646) 5.00 Country Ways (5876172) 5.15 Survival (722375) 5.45-6.20 Loud and Clear (721646) 12.35 ITV Chart Show (5126738) 1.35 Film: Hunted (9162318) 3.05 Kojak (6139844) 4.00 The Pier (3660956) 4.35 *Videofashion (79407488) 5.00-5.30* Freescreen (21467)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 12.25 The Littlest Hobo (3940801) 12.50-1.00 Tyne Tees News (35473998) 2.00-2.30 For Real (3646) 5.00 Bugs Bunny (5867424) 5.20 Bullseye (4460511) 5.50-6.20 The Back Page (702682) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) 1.05 Memories of 1978 (8585689) 2.05 Zara Dhyan Dein (3308399) 2.10 Film: Mausam (3631641) 4.45-5.30 Jobfinder (7629009)

ULSTER
As London except: 12.25-1.00 Gardening Time (3931153) 2.00-2.30 Bon Voyage (3646) 5.00 Police Six (5876172) 5.15-6.20 Coronation Street (9666066) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) 1.05 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (6479955) 1.35 Film: Cold Blood (9162318) 3.05 Entertainment UK (7897905) 4.05 Cue the Music (7313979) 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten (21467)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 12.30-1.00 Westwise (9498820) 2.00-2.30 Westcountry Update (3646) 5.00 Cartoon Time (5876172) 5.15 Survival (722375) *5.45-6.20 On the Road to the Islands* (721646) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) *1.05 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema* (6479955) 1.35 Film: Cold Blood (9162318) *3.05 Entertainment UK* (7897905) 4.05 Cue the Music (7313979) 5.00-5.30 America's *Top Ten* (21467)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 12.25 The Littlest Hobo (3940801) 12.50-1.00 Calendar News (35473998) 2.00-2.30 For Real (3646) 5.00 Bugs Bunny (5867424) 5.20 Bullseye (4460511) 5.50-6.20 Calendar (726482) 12.35 Quiz Night (6729863) 1.05 Memories of 1978 (8585689) 2.05 Zara Dhyan Dein (3308399) 2.10 Film: Mausam (13631641) 4.45-5.30 Jobfinder (7629009)

S4C
Starts: 7.05 The Wombles (3304153) 7.10 Widget (3895172) 7.35 Sandokan (7982240) 8.05 Hammerman (7441559) 8.30 Strangers (59849) 9.00 Jethn (33801) 9.30 Dennis (4559269) 9.45 Flipper (813066) 10.15 The Lone Ranger (838375) 10.45 Land of the Giants (621202) 11.45 Little House on the Prairie (6592172) 12.40 Sêrad Plaen (9492646) 1.05 Magic Roundabout (67020795) *1.10 American Gambit* (1912240) 1.45 Football Italia (89323240) 4.00 Fragile Earth (2511) *5.00 Dechrau* Canu Dechrau Canmol (5240) 5.30 Pobol Y Cwm (26598801) *7.15 Bwrw'r Sul* (743801) 8.05 Hel Straeon (900443) 8.35 William *Jones* (744066) *9.35 Newyddion* (787240) 9.40 Sain Diwmod Ar Y Sul (166608) 9.55 *The New Statesman* (718627) 10.25 Porterhouse Blue (291646) 11.25 E.N.G. (691917) 12.20-1.05 *High Interest* (1108134)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am Hour of Power (82559) 7.00 Fun Factory (4589714) 11.30 The Brady Bunch (97066) 12.00 WWF Challenge (16646) 1.00pm Robin of Sherwood (92066) 2.00 Trapper John (53240) 3.00 Xposure (9085) 3.30 Fashion TV (1795) 4.00 UK Top 40 (26559) 5.00 All American Wrestling (3527) 6.00 The Simpsons (79630) 7.00 21 Jump Street (42085) 8.00 Sins: First of a three-part mini series with Joan Collins (239608) 11.00 Hill Street Blues (98707) 12.00 Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (90820) 6.30 News and Business Report (416820) 9.30 Frost on Sunday (29511) 11.30 The National Gallery — A Private View (73085) 12.30pm *Financial Times* Reports (71849) 1.30 Target (72578) 2.30 Roving Report (11004) 3.30 The Lords (91191) 4.30 Memories of 1970-1991 (7356) 5.00 Live at Five (87917) 6.30 Roving Report (96795) 7.30 *Financial Times* Reports (8085) 9.30 Target (74714) 10.30 Roving Report (92998) 11.30 ABC News (86207) 12.30am Those Were The Days (15432) 1.30 ABC News (74405) 2.30 Target (71467) 3.30 ABC News (76912) 4.30 The National Gallery (94757) 5.30-6.00 Beyond 2000 (90950)

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.00am Showcase (12240)
8.00 Wonder of It All (1986): Wildlife documentary (77820)
10.00 Back Home (1989): Evacuee Hayley Mills returns to England (29117)
12.00 The Dream Machine (1991): Corey Haim acquires a Porsche (67443)
2.00pm Torn Apart (1989): A Jewish boy and an Arab girl fall in love (32606)
4.00 The Time Guardian (1987): Killer cyborgs travel back in time (5269)
6.00 Life Stinks (1991): Mel Brooks bets *that he can spend a month living on the* streets of Los Angeles (45172)
8.00 Child's Play 2 (1990): *Horror story* about a murderous doll (66375)
10.00 A Kiss Before Dying (1991): Sean Young marries killer Matt Dillon (786820)
11.35 Hammer (1989): A group of friends are menaced in Jamaica (819917)
1.10am Preppies (1990): Comedy about the girlfriends of three wayward teenagers who plot their revenge (8298486)
2.30 Mother, Jugs and Speed (1976): Black comedy about a madcap ambulance service. Starring Bill Cosby (176937)
4.10 Mack the Knife (1989): Adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's *The Threepenny Opera*, starring Raul Julia (955202). Ends at 6.00

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm Waterloo Bridge (1940, b/w). Tragic love story starring Vivien Leigh and Robert Taylor (9269)
6.00 Deathtrap (1982): Playwright Michael Caine plots to steal Christopher Reeve's script (36482)
8.00 Inside Daisy Clover (1965): Fictional Hollywood biopic starring Natalie Wood and Robert Redford (97753649)
10.10 Lipstick (1976): Rape victim Margaux Hemingway exacts her revenge (9321882). Ends at 11.40

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Strategic Air Command (1955): Baseball player James Stewart is recalled to military service (10882)
8.00 The Buster Keaton Story (1957, b/w): Biopic starring Donald O'Connor (75482)
10.00 Seven Sinners (1940, b/w): Marlene Dietrich falls in love with John Wayne (29199)
12.00 Branded (1950): Western starring Alan Ladd (65085)
2.00pm Absolute Strangers (1991): Henry Winkler's pregnant wife lies comatose (63578)
4.00 Return to Green Acres (1990): Comedy about a small town threatened by a property developer (6511)
6.00 Matters of the Heart (1990): *A teenager has an affair with concert pianist* Jane Seymour (43714)
8.00 Navy Seals (1990): *Michael Biehn and* Charlie Sheen lead a commando unit in a *hostage rescue mission* (55559)
10.00 One Good Cop (1991): Michael Keaton cares for his dead partner's three daughters (898004)
11.50 Ultraviolet (1991): Patricia Healy and Stephen Meadows encounter Esai Morales while hiking in Death Valley (850443)
1.15am Night of the Cyclone (1990): Kris Kristofferson searches for his missing daughter in the Caribbean (206842)
2.50 The Man Who Wasn't There (1983): Steve Guttenberg discovers an invisibility formula (665641)
4.45 Absolute Strangers (as 2pm) (7756405). Ends at 6.00

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Fishing the West (16171) 7.00 Rugby League Academy (29795) 9.00 Jack High (41578) 10.00 Goals on Sunday (31530) 11.00 Super Sunday — Preview (73240) 1.00pm Super Sunday Manchester Utd v Aston Villa (13646) 3.00 Bull Riders (63004) 4.00 Redline — Motorsport (42511) 5.00 Snowboarding (6530) 5.30 Netbusters (2066) *6.00 Super Sunday Extra* (as 1pm) (62424) 7.00 The Big League (43375) 9.00 *US PGA Golf from Florida* (89530) 11.00 Premier League Football (as 1pm) (48559)

12.00-2.00am German Football (23863)

EUROSPORT
7.30am *Motor Racing* (37358) 8.30 Step Aerobics (50191) 9.00 Skiing (36646) 10.00 *Trans World Sport* (33998) 11.00 Skiing (48462) 12.00 Motor Racing (18135) 2.00pm *Figure Skating* (90846) 4.00 Skiing and Ski Jumping (77207) 5.00 Golf (5743) 6.00 Athletics (49532085) 9.40 *Motor Racing* (184288) 11.30-12.30am Skiing (91795)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (52127627) 6.15 Button Moon (52115882) 6.30 Michael Bentine's Potty Time (8936288) 7.00 Chocky (2356085) 7.30 Owl TV (2368820) 8.00 Lassie (1975530) 8.30 Rentaghost (1974801) 9.00 Dr Who Omnibus (8937917) 11.00 Film: The Gazebo (1959, b/w) starring Glenn Ford (26270356) 12.45pm Film: *Flying Down to Rio* (1933, b/w) starring Dolores Del Rio (34200172) 2.30 To the *Manor Born* (5809917) 3.00 *The Bill* Omnibus (5456827) 5.30 Wuthering Heights (4231608) 6.30 The District Nurse (5591998) 7.00 Sorry! (2817559) 7.30 To the Manor Born (5580882) 8.00 To Serve Them All My Days (2654511) 9.00 Film: Broadway Danny Rose (1984) starring Woody Allen (2301761) 10.30 Ripping Yarns (5008646) 11.10 Alas Smith and Jones (5115714) 11.45-1.00am In Concert: The Neville Brothers (3989220)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Stories Without Words (67530) 6.30 Cartoon Classics (82375) 7.00 The Best of Jack in the Box (14785) 7.30 David the Gnome (16820) 8.00 The Berenstain Bears (73066) 8.30 Barnyard Commandos (72337) 9.00 Gravedale High (83578) 10.00 The Smoggies (12004) 11.00 Bravestarr, Iron Man (82240) 12.00 Cartoon Classics (2476379) 12.55pm Interbang (3266375) *1.20 Okavango* (3603545) 2.15 Earthworks (436066) 2.45 Mariposa (9472849) 3.35 *Round the Bend* (4259733) 4.05 Commander Crumbcake (5079649) 4.30 Shadows (4240) 5.00 TVFM (6172) 5.30 Fifteen (8820) 6.00-7.00 Fame (64066)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: Social *Science — Assignment 103*
6.55 Weather
7.00 Sunday Morning Concert: Coates (March, The Dam Busters); *Korngold (incidental* music, Robin Hood); Gershwin (Piano Concerto in F); Strauss (Waltz, München); Tchaikovsky (The Nutcracker, Act 2)
9.00 News
9.05 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning: Humperdinck (Overture, Dornröschen, Sleeping Beauty); Artist of the Week: Barry Tuckwell, horn, plays Knechtl (Horn Concerto in D); Schubert (Impromptu in G flat, D899 No 3); Holst (Ballet, The Perfect Fool); Puccini (I Crisantemi); Ravel (Bolero); **10.05** Satie (Gnossiennes Nos 4-6); Rameau (Suite, Les Indes galantes); Gershwin, arr Heifetz (Prelude No 2); Bernstein (Chichester Psalms); Mozart (Trio in E flat, K498, Kegelstatt); Prokofiev (The Ball, Symphonic Suite, War and Peace); **11.25** *Composer of the Week* preview: Charpentier (Te aeternum patrem, Te Deum); Cole Porter, arr George Shearing (But in the Morning); Puccini (Manon Lescaut, Act 4)
12.00 Spirit of the Age: Period Portrait. The bass David Thomas discusses his career, and introduces a selection of music **1.00pm News**
1.05 Replay: R.C. Hutchinson talks about his first novel, on the Home Service in 1953
1.25 From the Proms 1992: Felicity Lott, soprano; BBC SO under Andrew Davis performs Wagner (Prelude; Dance of the Apprentices; Entry of the Masters, Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg, Act 3); Wolf (In dem Schatten meinen Locken; In der Frühe; Gebet; Er ist's; Anakreons Grab; Mignon); Elgar (Symphony No 2 in E flat). Including at **1.55** Interval Reading (r)
3.05 Mozart: String Quintet in G minor, K516 (Grumiaux Trio, with Arpad Gerecz, violin, Max Lesueur, viola)
3.40 Winterreise: Peter Schreier, tenor, Graham Johnson, piano, *perform* Schubert's song-cycle
5.05 Tippett: Triple Concerto (Ernst Kovacic, violin, Gerard Caussé, viola, Alexander Baillie, cello; BBC Philharmonic under the *composer) (r)*
5.45 Arthur Honegger: Roger *Nicholas examines the life* and music of the composer (r)
6.30 Quatuor Mosaïques: Haydn (String Quartet in C, Op 20 No 2); Beethoven (String Quartet in A, Op 18 No 5) (r)
7.30 Sunday Play: *The Lovesong of Alfred J. Hitchcock*. See Choice
9.40 Royal Scottish Orchestra *under Alexander Lazarev* performs Tchaikovsky (Fantasy Overture, Romeo and Juliet); Rachmaninov (Piano Concerto No 1 in F sharp minor: *Dmitri Alexeev*); Tchaikovsky (Symphony No 3 in D, Polish)
11.15 Music in Our Time: Sarah Beck introduces works by Elizabeth Maconchy, president, and by Diana Burrell, programme director, of *the Society for the Promotion* of New Music. Burrell (Barrow: Jane's Minstrels); Maconchy (My Dark Heart); Burrell (Das Meer, das so gross und weit ist, da wimmelt's ohne Zah, grosse und kleine Tiere); Maconchy (String Quartet No *10: Mistry Quartet*)
12.30-12.35am News

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News, incl Weather **6.10** Prelude **6.30** News; Morning Has Broken, incl Bells on Sunday from Whichford Church Tower, Warwickshire **6.55** Weather **7.00** News **7.10** Sunday Papers **7.15** On Your Farm: Oliver Walston meets Dr Gavin Strang, the Labour spokesman on agriculture **7.40** Sunday **7.55** Weather **8.00** News **8.10** Sunday Papers
8.50 Joanna Trollope *talks for the Week's Good Cause* about the *Lady Hoare Trust for physically* disabled children **8.55** Weather
9.00 News 9.10 Sunday Papers
9.15 Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (r)
9.30 Morning Service from St Giles's Church, Bredon, *Gloucestershire*
10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition
11.15 News Stand, *with Melanie* Phillips
11.30 **Pick of the Week** *(r)*
12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue *Lawley's castaway is David* Croft, the television writer and *producer* **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World This Weekend, *with Nick Clarke* **1.55** Shipping
2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: *A postbag edition*
2.30 Classic Serial: Memoirs of a *Midget*, by Walter de la Mare. First of a three-part dramatisation by Stephen Wyatt. The diminutive Miss M struggles to find her place in Victorian society. With Emma Fielding and John Church
3.30 The Radio Programme, presented by Laurie Taylor
4.00 News; Analysis: Rites of Passage. David Walker considers how people who seek asylum and refuge in Britain should be assessed (r)
4.47 The Wedge Between Us: Dr Irving Finkel deciphers wedge writing from Mesopotamia
5.00 News; From the 'Pool to 100 Plus a Fish: George Melly ends his autobiographical journey by exploring his *passion for art (r)*
5.30 Poetry Please! **5.50** Shipping *Forecast* **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.15 Feedback, presented by Chris Dunkley (r)
6.30 Europhile *(r)*
7.00 In Business: Can Britain *export its way out of recession?* (r)
7.30 Bookshelf (r)
8.00 Punters (r). See Choice
8.30 Goodbye to All That: Calcutta. The last of four *programmes on the world's* creative communities. Simon *Parkes travels to India where* writers, poets and painters live among the poverty-stricken back streets
9.00 The Natural History Programme: Jessica Holm reports on the white-winged wood duck (r)
9.30 Special Assignment (r) **9.59** Weather **10.00 News**
10.15 Pak's Britannica: Mandeville's Hive. David Dabydeen investigates whether England's ability to absorb foreign influences can be harnessed to create a more positive attitude towards immigration
11.00 In Committee, presented by Rob Orchard
11.30 Seeds of Faith: Thirty years ago SCM Press published *Honest to God* by John Robinson, the Bishop of Woolwich. John Bowden, the press's present managing director and editor, considers how honesty has fared since
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.20** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

The Lovesong of Alfred J. Hitchcock. *Radio 3, 7.30pm*
Although ridiculously overlong, David Rudkin's "film for radio" is a drama event of some magnitude — a life of the great movie director that utilises some of the tools of his craft such as the camera's all-seeing eye and a shooting script. The biographical thread constantly snaps, only to be surrealistically repaired. The odyssey through a dark world of living cinema is both internal and external. Rudkin and Hitchcock (eerily resurrected by Richard Griffiths, with all the familiar drawled vowels in place) *finally converging in Hitchcock's despairing* cry: "I cannot live. I can only create. I cannot *be!*".

Punters. *Radio 4, 8.00pm*
The frivolous item that offsets the grim reports on children drowning in garden ponds and students being gassed by faulty appliances, is about a brunette television announcer who experimentally dons a blonde wig. A psychologist tells her that a man unexpectedly meeting a blonde stranger will probably start to sweat and his nostrils to flare. He then spoils it all by saying that the same thing would probably happen if she were dark-haired. **Peter Davalle**

FREQUENCIES: RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. *LBC:* 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. *CAPITAL:* 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. *GLR:* 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102. **COMPILED BY GILLIAN MAXEY AND PETER DEAR**

RADIO 1
FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Neale James (FM only until 6.00am) 7.00 Gary Davies 10.00 *Dave Lee Travis* 1.00pm Number Ones on 1 FM with Mark Ezeka 2.30 Rockline with Neale James 4.00 The UK Top 40 with Bruno Brookes 7.00 Pete *Tong's Essential* Selection 8.00 Anne Nightingale's Request Show 10.00 Gary Davies (FM only from 12.00) 1.00-4.00am Lynn Parsons (FM only)

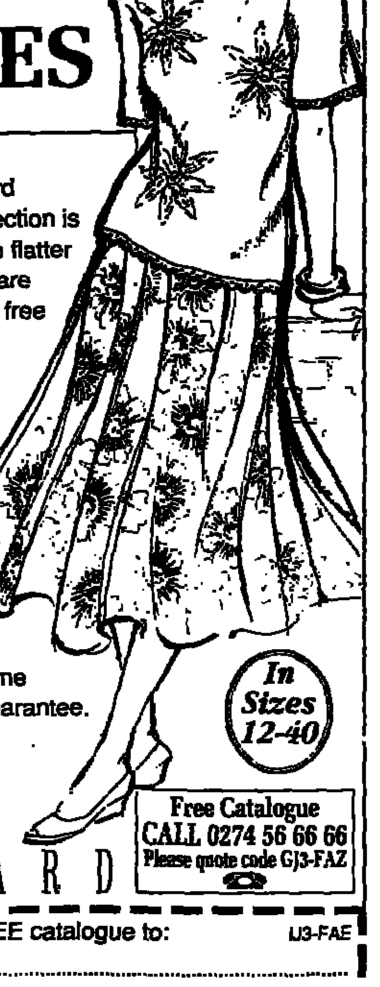
RADIO 2
FM Stereo. 4.00am Barbara Sturgeon 7.00 Don Maclean 9.05 John Sachs 10.30 Hayes on Sunday 12.00-7.00pm The Vintage Years: Desmond Carrington with Radio 2 All-Time Greats; 2.00pm Benny Green 3.00 Alan Dell with Sounds Easy; 4.00 Stars of the Fifties: Ruby Murray; 4.30 Sing Something Simple; 5.00 Charlie Chester 7.00 Richard Baker with Melodies for You 8.30 Sunday Half Hour from St Paul's Church, Birmingham 9.00 Alan Keith with Your Hundred Best Tunes 10.00 Radio 2 Arts Programme: Wilfred Owen — The Story of a Triumph 12.05am Nick Barraclough's New Country (r) 12.35 Charles Nove 3.00-5.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5
News and sport on the hour until 2.00pm. 4.25am Test Match Special: Sri Lanka v England 6.30 Weekend Edition Update 7.10 Test Match Special 11.45 Sunday Sport. South African Grand Prix; Football: Manchester Utd v Aston Villa, Sheffield Wednesday v Blackburn Rovers; Cricket; Rugby League 5.30pm They Think It's All Over 6.00 Money Talk 6.30 Education Matters (r) 7.00 Sportsdesk 7.20 Open University: Maths Miscellany; 7.40 Art Works, 8.00 Arts Foundation Course; 8.20 Managing Schools — Challenge and Response, 8.40 Mathematics — A Foundation Course; 9.00 Open Forum; 9.20 Arts — Literature in the Modern World; 9.40 Issues in Women's Studies 10.10 Across the Line 12.00-12.10am News, Sport 4.25 Test Match Special

WORLD SERVICE
All times in GMT. 4.30am World Business Review 4.40 Travel and Weather 4.45 Programmes in German 5.30 News, Europe This Weekend 5.55 European Sports News 5.59 Weather 6.00 News 6.15 Letter from America 6.30 Programmes in French 6.59 Weather 7.00 News 7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.50 Write On 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Classics with Kay 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Review 9.15 Short Story: Supper Before We Go 9.30 Folk Routes 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 *Science in Action* 10.30 *In Praise of God* 11.00 Newsdesk 11.29 *Travel* 11.30 BBC English 11.45 News and British Press Review in German Noon News 12.01pm Play of *the Week: The Hole in the Top of the World* 1.00 News 2.01 *The Last Tigers* 2.30 Anything Goes 3.00 News 3.15 International Recital 4.00 News 4.10 News About Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.29 *News in French* 4.30 Programmes in German 5.00 News and Business Review 5.15 Club 648 5.30 Programmes in French 6.00 News 6.30 Programmes in German 8.00 News 8.10 *Folk Routes* 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Europe Tonight 9.00 News 10.15 Meridian 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.05 World Business Review 11.15 Classics with Kay Midnight News 12.30am *In Praise of God* 1.00 News 1.01 It's All a Plot 1.45 Mastersingers 2.00 News 2.30 Composer of the Month: Ludwig Van Beethoven 3.00 News 3.10 News About Britain 3.15 Sport 3.30 *Anything Goes* 4.00 News 4.15 The Brain

CLASSIC FM
6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Classic Romance 12.00 Kelly's Line 2.00pm Celebrity Choice 3.00 Robert Booth 7.00 Authentic Performance 8.00 Classic FM Concert: LSO under Tilson Thomas performs Beethoven (King Stephen), Brahms (Serenade No 2) 10.00 Contemporary Classics 12.00-6.00am André Leon

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Dummy comes up trumps

Lynne Truss on the trail of the storylines that get away each week, not to mention missing narrative links



SOMETIMES, when two or three *EastEnders* fans are gathered together around a warm bottle of frascati and a plate of nuts, talk turns to the story lines that never came to anything: the ones that got away.

"What about that novel Rachel was going to write?" shouts somebody, banging the table, making the glasses dance. "Yes," comes a chorus of agreement, "whatever happened to *that*?" There is a general murmuring and shaking of heads, meanwhile more wine is poured, and fuddled brains are racked for further examples. "Didn't the insurance investigators guess that Grant started the fire in the Vic?" "Good point." "Nothing came of it though, did it?" "You're right there." "They let it drop." "You're right." "Let it drop."

"Actually," a killjoy pipes up unexpectedly, "Rachel did mention her book, just before she left. She said she'd been writing it." Everyone scoffs and makes "harumph" noises. More wine is poured. "Yes, but did you ever see her sitting at the word processor?" "No." "Did she ever buy a big blue box of Croxley Script?" "No." "Did she ever whinge about writer's block?" "No." "Well, there you are, then."

It is something you have to accept about soap operas, that there will be lacunae in the plot. It doesn't mean you don't love them. In certain card games there is the "dummy hand" — cards dealt to a non-existent player — and the effect is much the same. With a dummy hand, you can't see what's in it, nobody plays it, but since it makes up the remainder of the story, ultimately you can deduce its contents. "No one got Mr Bun the Baker?" "No." "Must be in the dummy hand."

TV REVIEW

Watching television soaps, this is a concept you are obliged to get used to: for every four or five televised editions of *EastEnders* there is a sort of phantom dummy edition that isn't shown — in which Rachel has been writing her novel all along ("Get me some Croxley Script, will you, while you're out?") and Grant has somehow eluded the charge of arson.

And narrative gaps are sometimes intentional, of course. *Mr Wroe's Virgins* (BBC2), for example — the four-part Wednesday serial which ends next week — appears to have more dummy hands than the windows of Dickins & Jones, which is why it becomes increasingly absorbing. A multiple-narrative story, in which essentially the same sequence of events is shown from a different viewpoint each week ("Leah's Story", "Joanna's Story", and so on), it seems to be building and growing, but towards a question, rather than an answer. Which is clever.

Mr Wroe (Jonathan Pryce) is the charismatic leader of a Christian Israelite sect in the north of England, 1830 (a church built on the washboard and dolly, incidentally, to judge by the spotless whites). Anyway, the menfolk affect Hasidic-style ringlets and huge, improbable beards like the one in the Edward Lear limerick ("Two Owls and a Hen, Four Larks and a Wren, Have all built their nests in my beard!"), and Mr Wroe himself sports a natty shovel hat.

Glowing with prophetic fervour, he takes Ashton-under-Lyne by storm, foretells the imminent destruction of the world and acquires a big house (fortunately without anyone spotting the contradiction). From his congregation he enlists seven assorted virgins for "comfort and succour", and is ultimately run out of town when accused of the inevitable carnal transgressions against them.

Is he a charlatan, a madman, a true believer? Well, what makes *Mr Wroe's Virgins* so interesting is that Mr Wroe's story is *in the dummy hand*, so he might be Mr Bun the Baker for all we know. He is central yet an enigma, showing different sides of himself to each of the four witnesses (gosh, are they evangelists? Are these gospels according to . . ?) and perversely disappointing each of their preconceptions by being a saint to the one who wants a man, a man to the one who wants a saint, and so on. In every scene involving Mr Wroe and a virgin, the dramatic focus is on her, not him. Selfless of Jonathan Pryce to take the part, really. I wonder if he realised.

The only real drawback to *Mr Wroe's Virgins* is that there are weekly intervals between episodes. Since each story expands, recaps and redirects the narrative, it is obviously useful if the viewer can remember what has gone before, and what hasn't.

Reasoning of a similar kind must, I think, have influenced ITV's decision to show Carlton's glossy three-part yuppie thriller, *A Statement of Affairs*, in a thick tight wad on Monday and Tuesday this week, because this was such a maddeningly elliptical piece of drama (logjammed with significant event, but all of it ungraspable, like snow on a fire) that if it had been shown at weekly intervals the viewers would simply faint in coils, overcome by the futility of paying close attention to a script that kept so many secrets to itself.



Absorbing virgin territory: Jonathan Pryce is selfless as Mr Wroe, with his seven assorted sources of "comfort and succour"

This was dummy-hand drama with a difference: we were shown only the non-playing cards. It was like being given a hole and trying to imagine the doughnut. While the characters undoubtedly each had a story to tell, the viewer was the last person to find out what it was. Who is Bob (Adrian Dunbar)? What is his scam? Why is he making mysterious assignations? Or is he? Why do I have no information? Why is he divorcing his wife, Pip (Frances Barber), while still living with her? Or is he? What is Bob's precise relationship with his old friends Steve (Dorian Healey) and Alan (David Threlfall), and their respective wives (Rosalind Bennett and Lesley Manville)? Why have I watched an hour of this without anything happening?

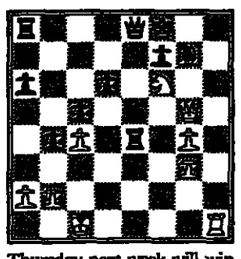
In the end, it turned out to be quite simple. Bob killed Pip, so Alan killed Bob. I was glad. There was some good acting (particularly Dunbar and Threlfall), terrific locations, good mellow *thirtysomething* ensemble stuff, but if the ambition of *A Statement of Affairs* was to show that murder can be committed by "people like us" then it would have been a good idea to engage the viewer's sympathies by giving him some information — just a little bit, for the sake of encouragement.

By contrast, when "you don't expect it to happen to someone you know" came up in this week's *EastEnders* — Michelle's daughter Vicky was temporarily abducted — the viewer could call on so many years of intimate knowledge of Michelle that the identification was almost unbearable. While the BBC dented the suspense somewhat by festooning these episodes with disclaimers against the charge of bad taste — Vicky will be all right; we filmed this weeks ago; abductions happen all the time — they were still absolutely right to transmit them, not just because Michelle (Susan Tully) was tremendous ("Oh Vicky, where are you?"), but because the scripts were in no way exploitative of current news stories, rather the reverse.

And of course, the BBC didn't really have much choice. Skip two episodes and carry on? Leave a gap and assume no one will notice? I don't think so, somehow. It would only need Uncle Pete to say: "How's Vicky now, 'Chelle? She all right after her ordeal?", and the women in the wine bar would rumble it. After all, we *don't* miss much.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Conquest — Bobzin, Bern 1993. White can, of course, capture the black queen here with 1 Nxe8. However, black could then recapture and with rook and knight against queen a long struggle is in prospect. What did white play instead?

Send your answer on a postcard with your name and address to: *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday next week will win a British Chess Magazine book. The answer and the winners will be printed in *The Times* on the following Saturday.

Solution to last Saturday's competition: 1 Re8+. The winners are: W. Walker, Brierfield; T. Fix, Brockworth; A.E. Milburn, Colchester.

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

AGUARDIENTE
a. A Portuguese chaperone
b. Rough brandy
c. Curator of a block of flats

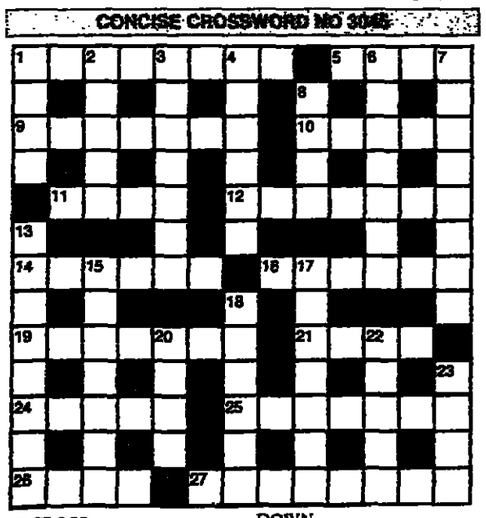
TAMURE
a. Pickled tomatoes
b. A lunge with the épée
c. A Tahitian dance

KATABOTHRON
a. A water hole
b. A bronze basin or bath
c. An avalanche

POTAGER
a. A soup cook
b. A vegetable garden
c. A method of dating ceramics

Answers on page 13

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3045



ACROSS
1 NB (4,4)
5 Male cook (4)
9 Honourable (7)
10 Pick (5)
11 Little note (4)
12 Chump (7)
14 Stand for (6)
16 Afternoon nap (6)
19 Shrivelled with age (7)
21 Former (4)
24 Respond (5)
25 Perfume, tea shrub (7)
26 Ranch holidaymaker (4)
27 Protester (8)

DOWN
1 Word for thing (4)
2 Flame (5)
3 Prejudiced (7)
4 Inform (6)
6 Wealth inheritress (7)
7 Former slave (8)
8 Most excellent (4)
13 The Americas (3,5)
15 Soaring bird of prey (7)
17 Deadlock (7)
18 Casual task (3,3)
20 Crazy (4)
22 Go round (5)
23 Shakespeare's mad king (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3044

ACROSS: 1 Rich haul 7 Kayak 8 Ben Jonson 9 Sum 10 Oboe 11 Grubby 13 Farmer 14 Slip up 19 Stifle 20 Case 21 Hen 23 Vague idea 24 Surge 25 Inserted

DOWN: 1 Rubs off 2 Candour 3 Hook 4 Unsure 5 Gypsy 6 Skimp 7 Knobbly 12 Believe 15 Plaudit 16 Piebald 17 Flagon 18 Shush 19 Snort 22 Peke

CROSSWORD ENTHUSIASTS: For mail order details of all Times Crossword Books and The Times Computer Crossword software with help levels (runs on most PCs), call Akom Ltd on 081 852 4575 (24 hrs) or CDS Doncaster on 0302 890 000. Also The Times Jumbo Crossword Book range - Book 1 (cryptic) £4.99, Book 2 (cryptic) £5.99, Concise Book 1 £5.99. Prices inc p&p from Akom Ltd., 51, Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW

A lesson in breeding delinquents

TV PREVIEW

● **Panorama: A Class Apart**
(Monday, BBC1, 9.30pm)
Contributing largely to the time-bomb of juvenile delinquency is the practice of kicking the difficult children out of school, and then not caring what happens to them afterwards *(Lynne Truss writes)*. According to this *Panorama* report, many of these "excluded" children — there are 30,000 of them, at any one time — receive little or no educational provision, with obvious consequences for juvenile crime.

● **Secret Nature**
(Tuesday, BBC2, 8.30pm)
The English Channel sounds a rather boring subject for a nature series. From the porthole of a hovercraft or ferry, it looks not only grey and flat but completely lifeless. How astonishing that any lard-smeared swimmer would desire to cross it, when the sheer dullness of the journey would force them to give up, long before the cramp or fatigue. *Secret Nature* promises, of course, to sweep aside such preconceptions, each week focusing on a different aspect of the Channel's ecosystem: sand, cliff, lagoon, island, drowned river valley. Andrew Cooper, the film-maker, achieves this diversity by keeping to the western approaches to the Channel — the Daphne du Maurier bits, where the sea is blue and sparkly — and quite honestly, you can't blame him.

● **Without Walls**
(Tuesday, Channel 4, 9pm)
Both of Tuesday's half-hour *Without Walls* programmes reveal high-profile Americans unnaturally obsessed with shy English icons — first Al Pacino's devotional interest in the poet Heathcote Williams, and then Camille Paglia's lively (and surely ridiculous) thesis that the Princess of Wales is a great, archetypal sex symbol, carrying on "an erotic relationship with the millions around the world". Paglia, a cultural critic whose mouth operates like a scatter-gun, is fantastic value on television, mainly because she speaks so rapidly and with such fashionable disdain for consequential thought that you can almost hear her synapses crackle. By the same token, she can also drive you bonkers.

● **Arena: Philip Roth**
(Friday, BBC2, 9.30pm)
A great week for winkling writers out of their hidey-holes. Tomorrow's *South Bank Show* is a profile of Richard Price, the American cult writer; Tuesday's *Without Walls* attempts to interview the reclusive Heathcote Williams; Wednesday's *Bookmark* celebrates Bohumil Hrabal, the unassuming Czech author; and then *Friday's Arena* brings us the first interview with Philip Roth in more than 20 years. All those writers pried unwillingly from their keyboards; it is truly a public service. The only problem is that it amounts to so much television, there is no time left for reading.

GUILTY SECRETS

Jimmy Choo, shoe designer



"In Malaysia, where I lived until I was about 18, only the best British television programmes were imported. Then I moved here and got to see the best and the rest. I'm afraid I have no time for the soaps, which seem to have become a British institution. The plots simply end up annoying or confusing me — *EastEnders* in particular. I never have time to read the newspapers so I'm fanatical about watching the news on all channels to soak up the main stories. By the time it gets to ITN's *News At Ten* I can't help relishing that gossipy titbit at the end."

Coolest Pixie on this or any planet



Frank Black, formerly of the Pixies, wants to take aliens to Disneyland

SO you want to know who the movers and the shakers were — who was on the front line spilling blood and giving out hairy battle cries after the Great Punk Wars had finished and the early 1980s were left to go about their business as usual?

Well, the world was a smaller place then, it spun slower on its axis and things were much simpler. As humankind re-emerged from the bunkers, covered in asbestos dust and safety-pin scars, it was apparent that there were only three bands that really mattered. The Smiths swooned gloriously for England, Husker Dü stormed sweetly for the US, and the Pixies — they were doing it more for the *world*, man.

The Pixies growled and glowered and *glowed* 20 times louder and brighter than anything else — they had this wonderful way of detonating guitar chords the size of Havana; and their lyrics were as twisted and perverse as a toffee-meringue helter-skelter: "*I was swimming in the Caribbean/and all the animals were behind, all behind rock/except very little fish/and he said. . . where is my mind?*" Before the Pixies gatecrashed this most excellent party we call life, pop music had a side parting. Now it sweeps it back with a devil-may-care flick of the wrist and to hell with the consequences.

So imagine the scenes of desolation and horror that followed the announcement earlier this year by Pixie songwriter Black Francis that he was breaking up the band to pursue a starry solo career. The centuries ahead seemed to be all bleak and grimness until, under the *nom du rock* Frank Black, he released his first solo LP this week. Street parties and the application of bunting to almost anything that moved should coincide.



MICHAEL HALSBAND

Frank Black: the wheel was where things started going wrong

"If I had a planet, one of my own, I would not allow the wheel to be introduced. I generally tend to think that was where things started going wrong. Undoubtedly the whole state of affairs would be much better if the earth had remained wheelless."

Frank is in the US and doing a day of phone interviews for the British press. Physically anyway. Mentally, it's anyone's guess where he is. The diversity and oddity of his creative musings are something regularly commented upon by the music press. "You know, there's all this literature that precedes me by 5,000 years, this giant assortment of themes and topics, and critics get surprised when I write about a couple of things out of the ordinary. When I don't just write about, ah, uh, love and girls." No, Frank doesn't write many songs about love and girls. "I heard Ramona sing", from the new album *could* have been about a girl, but it's actually about well-nigh fossilised rock band, the Ramones. "Los Angeles" is about all the *many* places in the world called Los Angeles that aren't *the* Los Angeles. "Brackish Boy" is a wrist-breakingly flamenco tour of the acoustic guitar, with the succulent lyric: "*By now you know he had no luck, he was smashed head on by a giant truck.*" Frank can faithfully sit back and prepare to be cool for another five years.

"Actually, I don't think there's any such thing as being cool," he says. He's chewing his nail or something; his voice suddenly becomes slightly mumbled. "Cool isn't something you can pick up at your General Used Army Store. I probably am cool, it is not something you can think about too much, or else it would get in the way and you'd have to be continually kicking it away from you. An image of being cool would be a pain in the ass."

So what does Frank think of his image then? "What do you think my image is?" he shoots back. "Well, you know. A, um, fat guy with a fixation with aliens and outer space."

"Well, I *am* just this fat guy, basically, who makes music. But all musicians have to be actors, as well. We have to be these larger-than-life characters, with these wild and amusing quotes on tap. None of that's real. The record is what's real — that sound coming out of the black box, the reels and reels of tape. That's the real stuff."

So, Frank Black, outrageous rock star with a freaky obsession with aliens, to end this interview in character: where would you take a bunch of aliens visiting Earth?

"Oh, Disneyland. That sounds sensible to me. They'd get a fair idea of what's going around and what's bringing us down if I wheeled them around Disneyland for an hour or two."

CAITLIN MORAN

● *Frank Black's LP, untitled, for some odd reason, Frank Black, is out about now on the 4AD label.*

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